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Volume 10 Number 6
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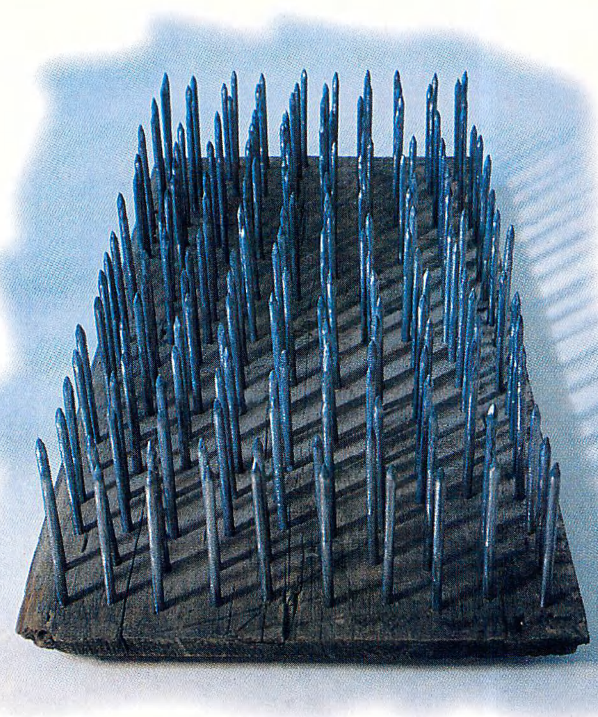

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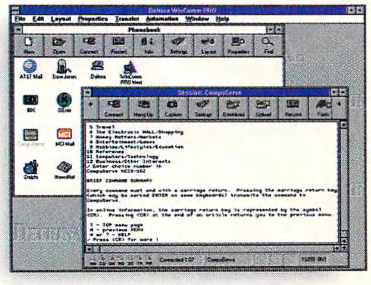
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Session: CompuServe
Connect Hang Up Capture Settings Download Upload Record Fonts
Connected 1:07
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19200 8N1

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5 Travel
6 The Electronic MALL/Shopping
7 Money Matters/Markets
8 Entertainment/Games
9 Hobbies/Lifestyles/Education
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11 Computers/Technology
12 Business/Other Interests
! Enter choice number !h
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BRIEF COMMAND SUMMARY

Every command must end with a carriage return.  Pressing the carriage return key
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! Press <CR> for more !
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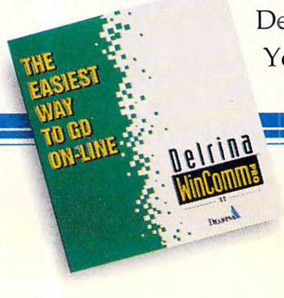
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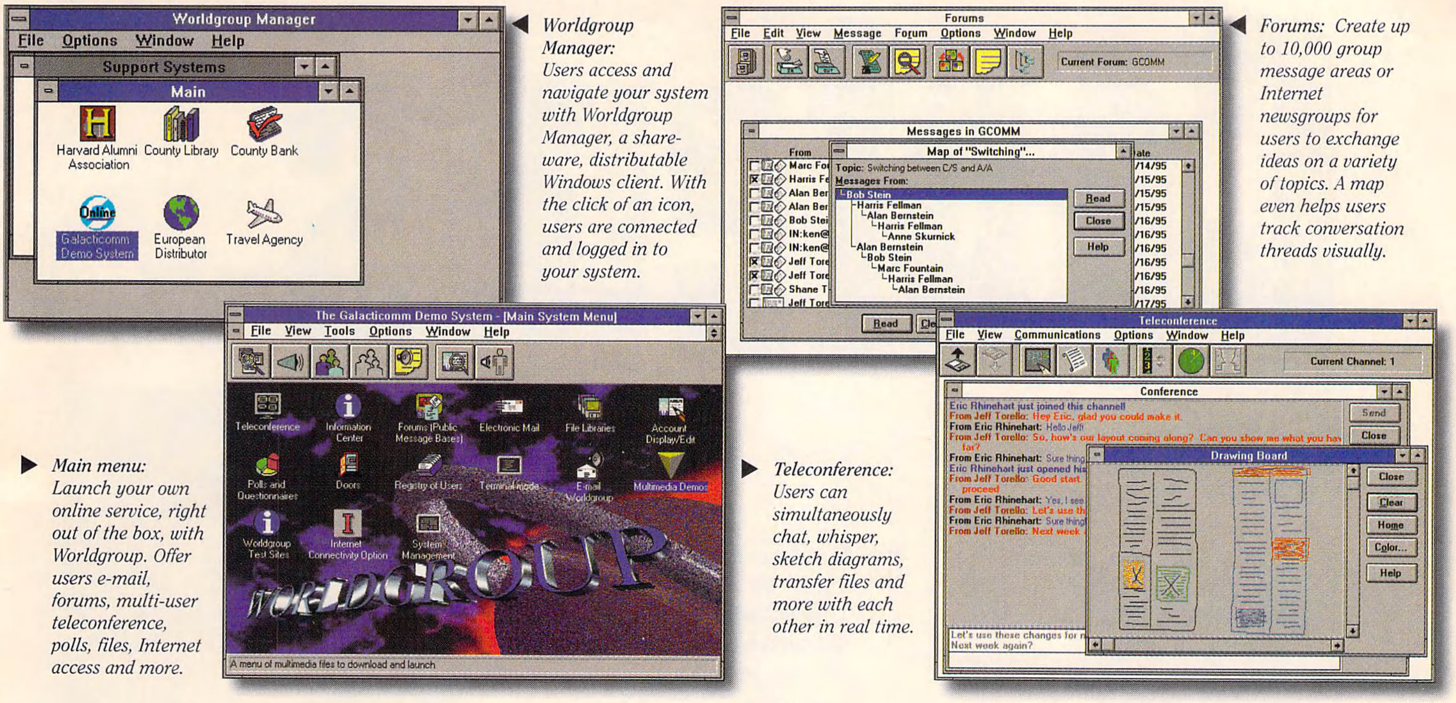
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Read
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Send
Close
Drawing Board
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Clear
Home
Color...
Help

Topic: Switching between C/S and A/A

Messages From:
Bob Stein
Harris Fellman
Alan Bernstein
Harris Fellman
Anne Skurnick
Alan Bernstein
Bob Stein
Marc Fountain
Harris Fellman
Alan Bernstein

A menu of multimedia files to download and launch

Eric Rhinehart just joined this channel!
From Jeff Torello: Hey Eric, glad you could make it.
From Eric Rhinehart: Hello Jeff!
From Jeff Torello: So, how's our layout coming along? Can you show me what you hav far?

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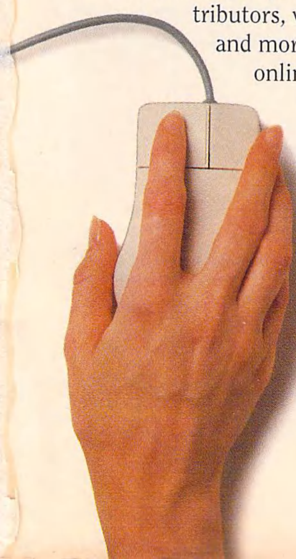

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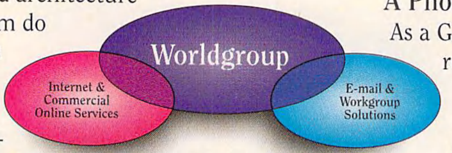
The shareware client runs under Windows on your users' machines. Its multi-threaded architecture lets them do all sorts of cool things simultaneously. Like download files in the background, while reading new mail. Or auto update new versions of applications transparently.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Contents

Online Access Your Connection to Online Services, Bulletin Boards and the Internet June 1995

Cover Illustration; Hank Osuna

Features

42 The Great Web Rush of '95: Prodigy Takes an Early Lead
By Carol Freer and Dana Humphrey
Although Prodigy's the first online service to introduce a Web browser, it faces stiff competition from software companies and soon from other online services.

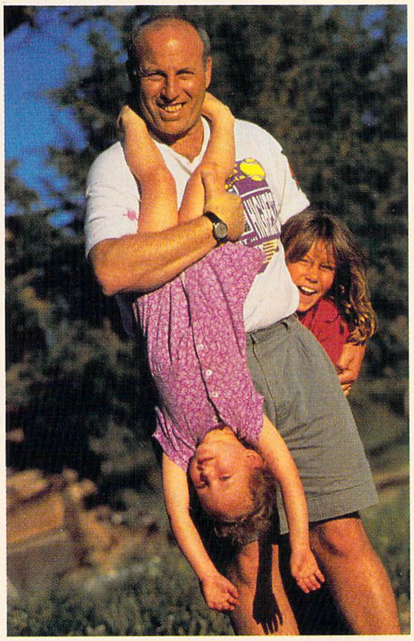
49 Ten Tips for Browsing the World Wide Web on Prodigy
By Jack M. Germain
Here are some helpful hints to keep in mind while navigating Prodigy's Web browser.

51 Search Tools for the Web: Robots, Spiders and Worms, Oh My!
By Lenny Bailes
Here are some tools to help you search the World Wide Web.

56 When MUD Moos and MUSH Muses
By Rita Laws
Check out a MUD game for hours of fun.

63 Charming the Beast: EDGAR
By Elias Crim
The SEC's corporate and financial data is now available to the public through EDGAR, but making sense of it is the trick.

The Great Web Rush of '95, pg. 42



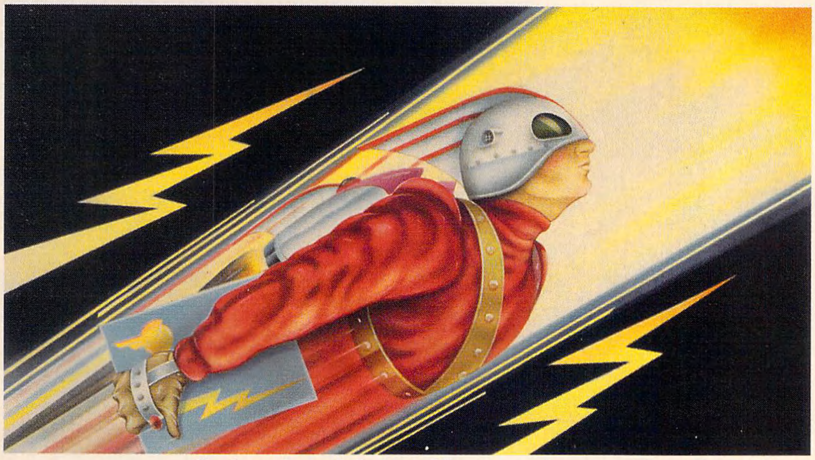
Fathers Online, pg. 69

69 Sharpen Your Parenting Skills Online
By Kathleen Low
Fathers, listen up! Now you can get answers to your parenting questions online.

74 Editor's Choice: BBS Phone Book
By Carol Freer and Brenda Kukla
Thousands of bulletin board systems are found all over the map. Check out what's available in your area code.

Columns

22 Internet Insider
By Jim Romenesko
Those obsessed with golf, rave parties and the O.J. Simpson trial will appreciate the juicy tidbits in this month's Insider.



Check out Launch Pad, pg. 38, our new department for online beginners.

26 **OA10: Online Democracy**
By David Noack
Take an electronic tour of the White House.

28 **Power User: A CompuServe Toolbox**
By Scott Arpajian
Here are some tips to help you make the most of your time on CompuServe.

31 **Baud Street: BBS Revolution**
By Alan Bechtold
Bulletin board systems increase in popularity with new client/server technology.

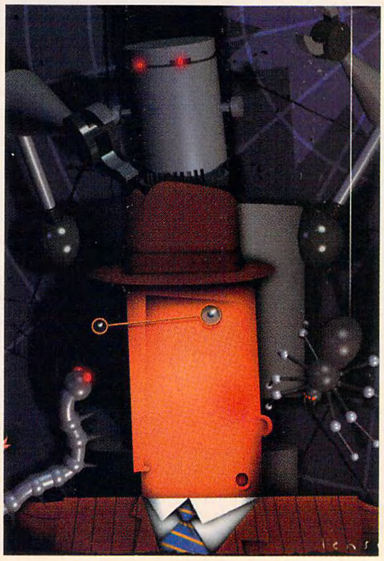
34 **Strangelove on the Internet: The Internet Is for Kids**
By Michael Strangelove and Jason Shouldice
Don't miss this first-person account of one child's adventure on the Internet.

36 **Good Things on the Internet: There's No Business Like Show Business**
By Gary Robbins
Check out the Internet Movie Database for a behind-the-scenes look at your favorite Hollywood movies, actors and actresses and more.

104 **Online Almanac: Summer is Here!**
By Elias Crim
Kick off the new summer season online with traditional June events like baseball and Father's Day.

Departments

5 **Editor's Letter**
7 **Letters to the Editor**
10 **New Products and Services**
14 **Online Update**
19 **ClipBoard**
38 **Launch Pad**
100 **Info MarketPlace**
103 **Reader Survey**



Web Search Tools, pg. 51

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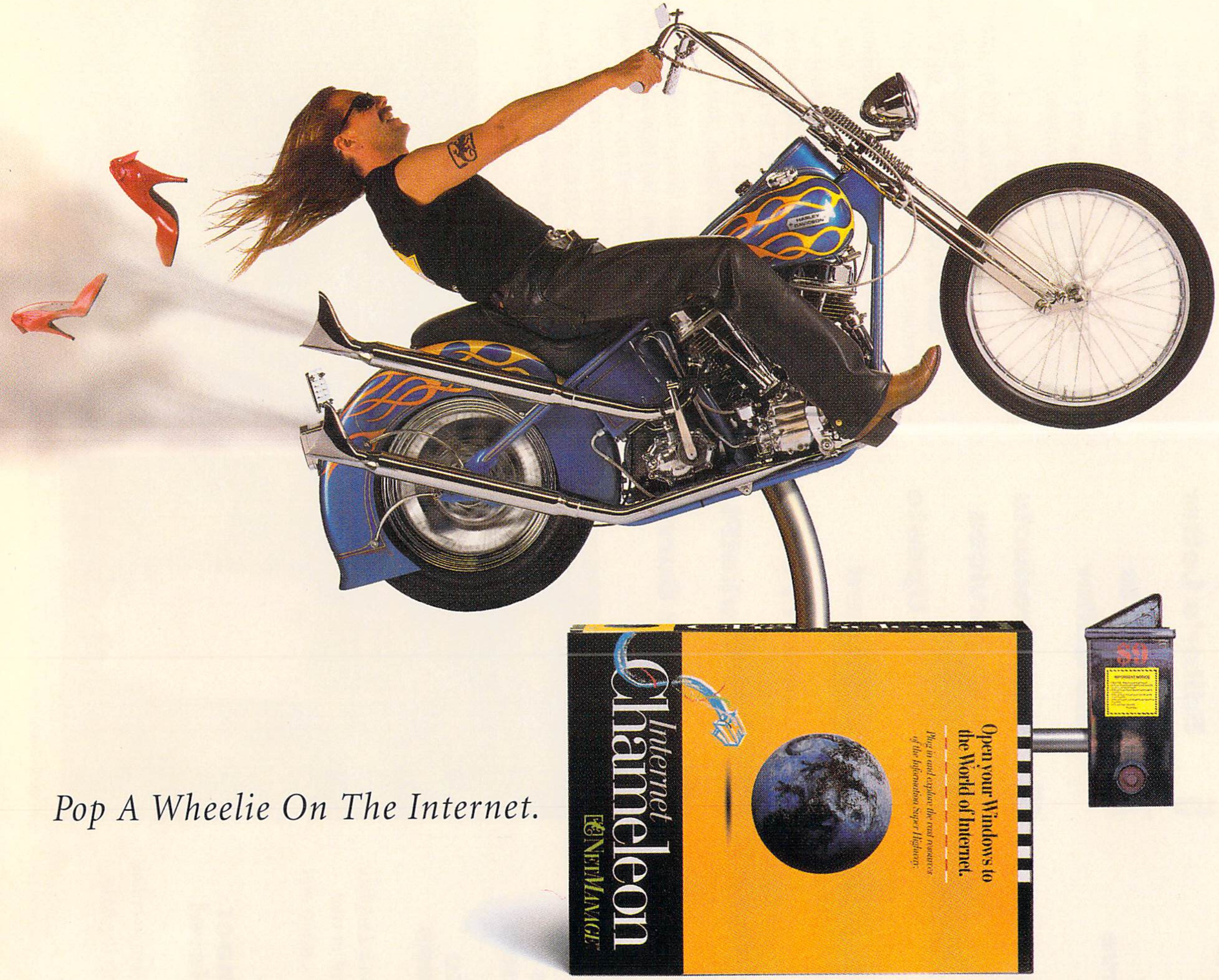

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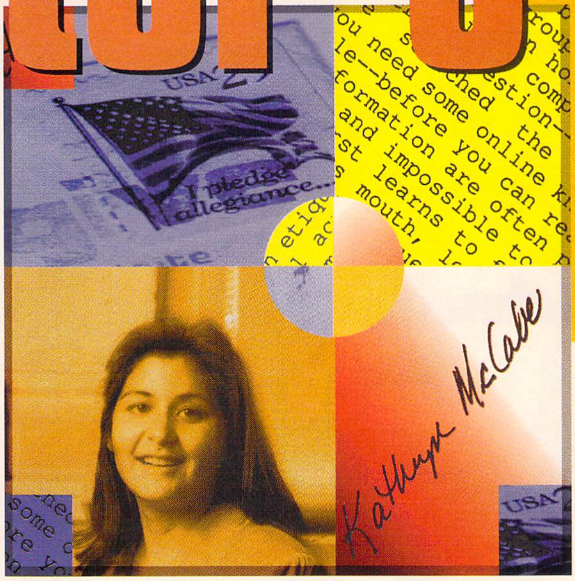
Editor's Letter

Overcooked on the Infobahn



The Icon Byte Bar & Grill is a relatively new restaurant located in a funky, low rent area of San Francisco. The establishment is, according to the cover of its menu, the city's "new multimedia food bar as seen in *Newsweek, USA Today* and *The New York Times*." It is also the latest example of overkill on the Information Superhighway.

This eatery has received a lot of attention from the press lately. For instance, "Hungry customers at the Icon Byte Bar & Grill can download items from a full menu," one review read. Another claimed ". . . access to the Internet is as much a part of the menu as the food." After reading these rave reviews, I had visions of computers on every table and point-and-click ordering.

So on a recent trip to the Bay area, I made a special effort to check out the Icon Byte. I was so anxious to get a table that I arrived an hour early. Killing time at a coffee shop across the street, I eagerly eyed the restaurant's sign that promised me dinner, music, a full bar and the Internet.

Of course, with such high expectations I was bound to be disappointed. What I found out was that the Icon Byte features only one computer—a Macintosh—in the middle of its floor. That's one computer, loaded with only a Netscape browser, to entertain as many as 100 patrons at a time. On top of that, this Mac did not have downloadable menus, e-mail or even an America Online account.

Even though I was one of the first people to enter the joint that Saturday, five people were already crowded around the computer before I could even sit down. A couple of newbies lingered on the edge of a group while an experienced user ran through a brief tutorial. Through this group of people, I learned that I was not the only out-of-towner to make this pilgrimage. Some of them were from as far away as Buffalo and Baltimore.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* compared the restaurant's atmosphere to a cyber-arcade. After seeing spray painted used car parts hanging from the walls, the term cyber-junk seems more accurate. And, contrary to what I had read, neither my waitress nor my busboy were online users.

So why did the *San Francisco Chronicle, Newsweek* and other highly regarded publications promote this modest cafe with only one computer? And why did they feel it necessary to embellish the reality of the Icon Byte? I don't know. But plunking down $3,000 for a computer might be the best marketing investment restaurant owners can make.

The Icon Byte isn't a bad place to hang out and it can't be held responsible for misrepresentation by the press. In fact, I recommend that you stop by if you're in the neighborhood. The food is good and you might meet some interesting people. After all, this is the place where, according to the menu, "resident computer gurus gather."

But an electronic Disney World it's not.

Editor-in-Chief

Kathryn McCabe

Kathryn McCabe

The Icon Byte Bar & Grill is located at 299 Ninth St. (at Folsom) in San Francisco. The phone number is 415-861-2983. You can also check out the restaurant's menu on the World Wide Web at ***http://akebono.stanford.edu/yahoo/Economy/Business/Corporations/Restaurants****.*

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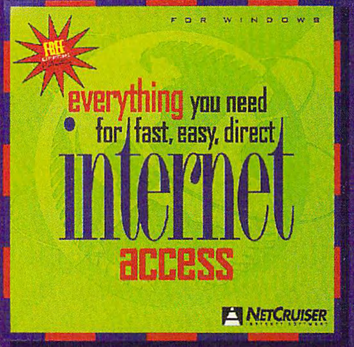

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Letters to the Editor

This month we received a lot of mail about the Editor's Letter, "A Free Lunch In Cyberspace?" (March 1995). Many readers offered their opinions, advice and theories regarding the expensive long distance phone bills they pay for Internet access.

Phone Bill Blues

The Editor's Letter, "A Free Lunch In Cyberspace?" (March 1995) addresses the cost of Internet access from rural locations.

One way to lower toll charges is to access through "interstate" means as opposed to "intrastate." For example, I live in Minnesota, but it is usually cheaper for me to call Wisconsin rather than to place a long distance call within Minnesota.

Kent D. Laugen
kdlmac@aol.com
Red Wing, MN

As one of those "not exactly hicks in the sticks" addressed in the Editor's Letter, "A Free Lunch In Cyberspace?" (March 1995), I'm always looking for a low cost way to use online services.

International Discount Telecommunications is doing no one a favor with 10 to 14 cents a minute. That's an easy rate to get. I achieve that price on nearly all calls in the evening with AT&T.

My opinion is that the online services are doing so well they just don't care if we connect out here. AOL's answer to customers' complaints is to dial up AOLnet at 28,800 bps and save money in downloads.

AOLnet does save money, but I would have to call their node in Dallas (400 miles away) to do it. Well, at least I get frequent-flyer miles from my AT&T True Rewards program for phone calls!

Sonny Carter
cartersn@alpha.nsula.edu
Natchitoches, LA

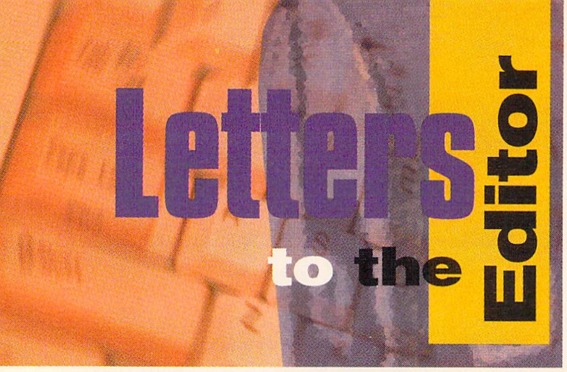
I was very interested when I saw the Editor's Letter, "A Free Lunch in Cyberspace?" (March 1995) about International Internet Access' (IIA) free Internet accounts and special 800 number because toll calls limit my access to a local BBS.

Then I started to add up the cost of this "free" service. A person wrote **ONLINE ACCESS** saying that their Internet service costs $5 per month with 3 hours of access per day, but that couldn't have been for local calls. To use the IIA services and 800 number for that amount of time would cost $540–$756. To connect for only one hour per day, the cost would still be $180–$252.

Marc Wheeler
mlwheeler@aol.com
Henderson, TX

AOL Issues

I just cancelled my subscription to AOL and then read the article "What Price Online Glory?" (April 1995). AOL's problem is very simple. They want to provide the most services to the entire country, but, in becoming the largest online service, they forgot the basic premise of business: a good product at a fair price.



Letters to the Editor

I paid $2.95 an hour for hard-to-get connections and slow access speeds. I've seen many advertisements about high speed access on the new AOLnet, yet I'm only offered 2400 bps...and no hope of getting anything higher without long distance charges. I am not going to cruise the Information Superhighway on foot. No thanks, AOL, I would rather pay the higher hourly fees on CompuServe for easy-to-get connections and at least 9600 bps, or pay the same price on Prodigy but at 9600 bps or higher.

Mark R. Richardson
76221.1407@compuserve.com
Star City, WV

I would like to respond to your critique of America Online in "What Price Online Glory?" and "Diary of an AOL User" (April 1995). I do not believe AOL should have been presented in such an unfair fashion.

I have tried CompuServe and been very dissatisfied. AOL is much easier to navigate through. Another CompuServe downfall is that many of their directories are not part of the basic package, which drives the price up well beyond AOL.

For the record, I have been unable to immediately log on to AOL only once this month. Even then, I waited only two minutes before being let on the service.

The chat room I visit regularly never has more than 30 people in it even when there is a guest host. I have also downloaded a number of interesting software files during the 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. EST slot. Finally, I believe that AOL's technical support is friendly and helpful at all times.

Howard Owens
pd4wrds@aol.com
Spring Valley, CA

BBS Dilemma

I just received the April 1995 issue of **ONLINE ACCESS** and was dismayed to see that Exec-PC was not mentioned as a BBS with Internet access in the Editor's Choice section.

We offer Internet access to all of our customers at no additional cost (excluding SLIP/PPP). We are telnetable and have 10 incoming telnet lines (with 30 more planned), and we are the world's largest BBS, widely known and extremely popular.

I like journalistic integrity and appreciate articles that are objective. Either the research that's being done to accumulate this information is not reaching into Wisconsin or something is screwy here.

Greg Ryan
greg@execpc.com
VP, Operations
Exec-PC, Inc.
Elm Grove, WI

Modem Praise

I would like to applaud Lenny Bailes for his article "High Speed Modems From AT to Z" (March 1995). For over a year, I've been using a 14,400 bps modem for my BBS, but I am interested in upgrading to 28,800 bps because, aside from the BBS, I am also an avid Internet junkie.

Brad Estes
riko@eskimo.com
Lake Stevens, WA

Love Online

It was a refreshing change to see romance novels, authors and readers treated with respect in the article "Love At First Type" (March 1995). After seeing an online reference to this article on GEnie RomEx (Romance Writers and Readers Exchange), I dashed to the bookstore and grabbed a copy of **ONLINE ACCESS**.

I was so pleased with the article's accuracy, and the fact that romance novels weren't belittled or sneered at, that I immediately filled out a subscription card for **ONLINE ACCESS**.

As a romance novelist who is proud of her books, readers and online service (GEnie RomEx), I can't tell you what a joy it was to see our industry presented in a good light for once.

Brenda Hamilton
brenna.todd@genie.geis.com
Broken Arrow, OK

Corrections and Clarifications

Victoria Freenet ("Freenets: Community Access For All?" April 1995) has changed its modem number from 604-595-2300 to 604-479-6500.

Contact information for the Science & Engineering Network News (SENN) mentioned in the New Products section (April 1995) is **senn@world.std.com**, e-mail, and 508-755-5242, voice.

How to Reach Us

mail
ONLINE ACCESS
900 N. Franklin, #310
Chicago, IL 60610

e-mail
70324.343@compuserve.com

fax
312-573-0520

Due to technical difficulties, our bulletin board is no longer operating. If you need to reach us, please send a message by fax, e-mail or postal mail.

*In your letter, please include your name, address and either a phone number or e-mail address where we can reach you. **ONLINE ACCESS** may publish any letter that it receives unless a letter is clearly marked **not for publication**.*

It is the magazine's policy to publish the name (not screen name) and city or e-mail address of each letter writer. Letters that do not include this information cannot be published. The magazine reserves the right to edit any letter it receives for clarity and length.

*Due to the volume of mail that we receive at **ONLINE ACCESS**, we regret that we cannot guarantee a personal response to every letter.*

Lotus
cc:MAIL
MOBILE
RELEASE 2
THE NORTON UTILITIES FOR MACINTOSH
SYMANTEC
Application Disk 1
TOMMY
THE WHO'S
A NEW MUSICAL
ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING
RCA VICTOR
WINNERS
CELESTIAL SEASONINGS
Vanilla Maple
BLACK TEA
ISN

SEE WHAT THE INTERNET HAS IN STORE FOR YOU.

Wouldn't it be cool if you could buy more than just computer stuff on the net? Now you can, at the Internet Shopping Network. Sure, we have over 22,000 computer products including programs from companies like Lotus, Symantec and Microsoft—but that's just the beginning. It's also a place where you can order flowers from FTD Online and see the arrangements before you buy them. If tea is your thing, you can browse and buy a whole selection from Celestial Seasonings. Look through the Hammacher-Schlemmer catalog on-line, and find everything from footballs to footwear, even a home sauna for two. Imagine using the net to catch fresh steak and lobster from Omaha Steak International. Sample thousands of music titles. Check out thousands of software programs. Get more information, on more products, than anywhere else on the net. And if you ever have a question about our services or products, simply ask Dave, one of our service gurus, for help.

The Internet Shopping Network is more than a cool stop on an otherwise overheated highway, it's the last place you'll ever expect to find business as usual on the net.

Free membership
http://shop.internet.net
1-800-677-SHOP
For more information,
e-mail: info@internet.net.

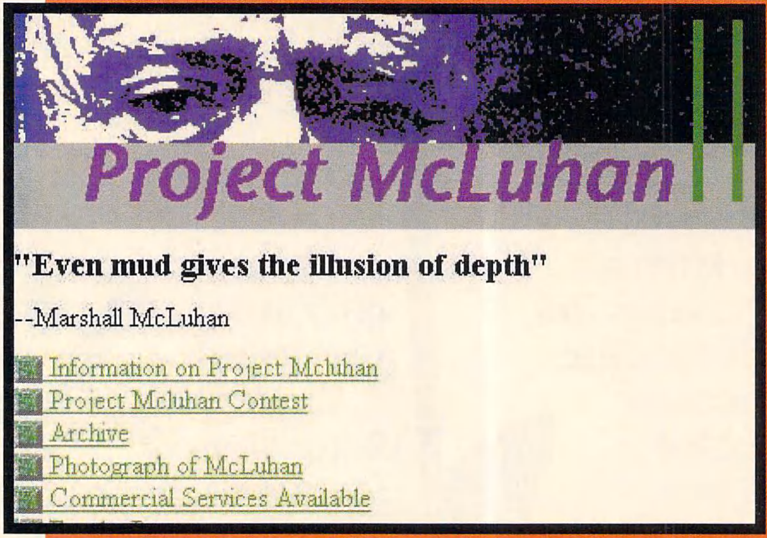
The Internet Shopping Network

©1995 Home Shopping Network, Inc. All rights reserved. Internet Shopping Network is a trademark of Home Shopping Network, Inc. All others are trademarks or copyrights of their respective companies. Another cool thing about the Internet is the lack of all this legal fineprint...for now.

New Products and Services

By Dana Humphrey

Internet News



Project McLuhan

"Even mud gives the illusion of depth"

--Marshall McLuhan

- Information on Project Mcluhan
- Project Mcluhan Contest
- Archive
- Photograph of McLuhan
- Commercial Services Available

Here's a newsletter devoted to the ideas of media guru Marshall McLuhan.

The voice of late media guru Marshall McLuhan lives on with ***The McLuhan Analyst***, a newsletter dedicated to his analyses and insights that can be delivered to your e-mail address. Due out this summer, the newsletter will cover topics such as communications, marketing, advertising, technology, telecommunications, education, trends and projections, culture and alternative media. Subscription price for 12 issues is $99 (U.S.) a year. By spring, a McLuhan listserv will be available as well as an electronic McLuhan trivia contest. Check out their Web site at **http://www.vyne.com**. *The McLuhan Analyst* is a joint effort of The Marshall McLuhan Center for Global Communications and The McLuhan Center for Media Sciences, both nonprofit organizations based in Toronto, Canada. For more information, either call 905-889-2840, voice, send a fax to 905-764-2669, fax, or e-mail to **mclr@inforamp.net**.

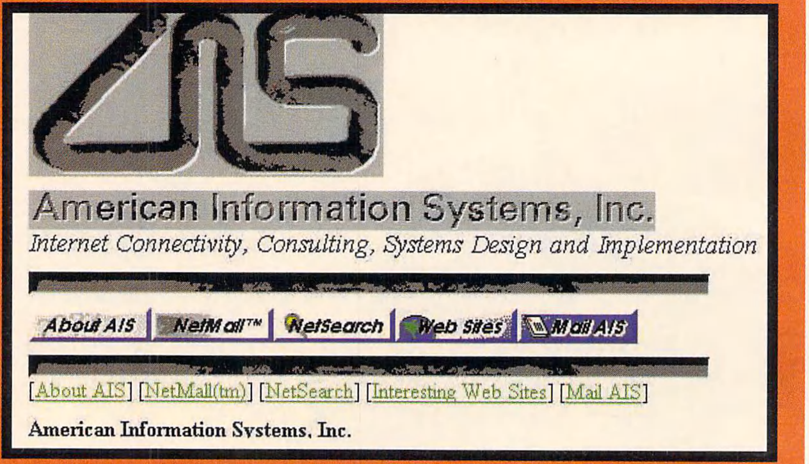
Wordsmiths, get crossword puzzles sent to your e-mail address. From your e-mail system's prompt, type **finger xword@acy.digex.net.**

First it was license plates, now it's Internet e-mail addresses. Distinguish yourself in cyberspace with a vanity e-mail address.

An Internet systems consulting firm called American Information Systems, Inc. (AIS) offers customized addresses to its customers. For companies that request the service, AIS registers an Internet domain name, such as **yourcompany.com**. Individuals at the company then choose their own e-mail addresses, such as **yourname@yourcompany.com**. AIS can route mail to any mail carrier (such as AOL, CompuServe, Delphi, etc.) without including the carrier's name in the e-mail address.

Executive director Jared P. Schultz says, "The address can reflect a company's products, services or overall image."

For more information, call AIS at 708-413-8400, voice, and ask for Michael Hakimi. Or check out the AIS Web site at **http://www.ais.net**.



American Information Systems, Inc.

Internet Connectivity, Consulting, Systems Design and Implementation

[About AIS] [NetMall(tm)] [NetSearch] [Interesting Web Sites] [Mail AIS]

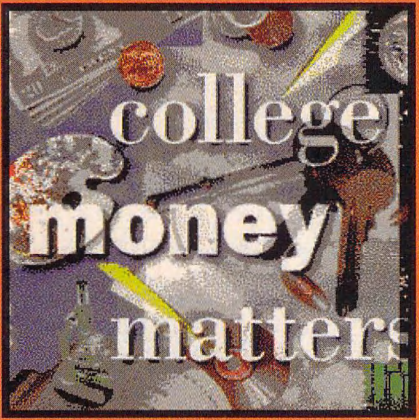
American Information Systems, Inc.

Get your very own vanity e-mail address from American Information Systems, Inc.

Internet News

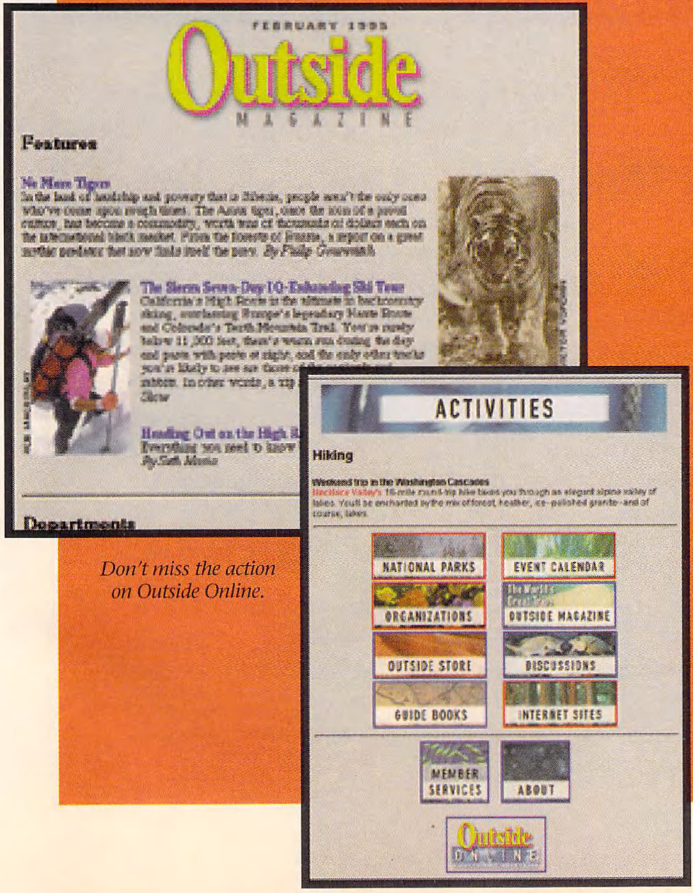
Web Sites

Students who feel the crunch of rising college costs should check out Signet Bank's new page on the Web called **College Money Matters** at **http://www.infi.net/college-money**. A major lender, Signet Bank allows users to instantaneously read about current financing options. Customers can also get their questions answered, request loan information and obtain online applications via Signet's fully staffed e-mail address (**signet@infil.net**).


college
money
matters

How can I afford college? Explore your options on this page.

If you consider yourself an adventurer, you won't want to miss out on the action at **http://www.starwave.com/outside**. Called **Outside Online**, the site offers outdoor sports and adventure information from the active-lifestyle magazine *Outside*. You'll also find selected weather and site conditions, including avalanche and back-country forecasts; current ski reports; discussion areas; calendar of events; and advice from outdoor experts. Outside Online was developed by Starwave Corp., creators of interactive products.


FEBRUARY 1995
Outside
MAGAZINE
Features
Departments
ACTIVITIES
Hiking
Weekend trip in the Washington Cascades
NATIONAL PARKS
EVENT CALENDAR
ORGANIZATIONS
OUTSIDE MAGAZINE
OUTSIDE STORE
DISCUSSIONS
GUIDE BOOKS
INTERNET SITES
MEMBER SERVICES
ABOUT
Outside
ONLINE

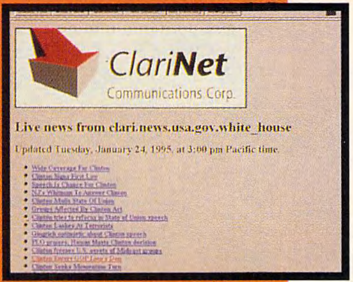
Don't miss the action on Outside Online.

The doors of Miller Genuine Draft's virtual pub are open. The **MGD Tap Room** gives you the lowdown on the latest trends in music, fashion, nightlife, art, sports, food and social issues around the country. MGD Tap Room promises to always have something fun and exciting brewing, so bring your friends. The address for MGD Tap Room is **http://www.mgdtaproom.com**.

mgd
tap
room
SM
http://www.mgdtaproom.com
e-mail:mgdtaproom@mgdtaproom

Frequent the MGD Tap Room to stay up on the latest trends.

ClariNet is now delivering its news in a Web-readable form. Previously available only in Usenet format, all editions of the ClariNet's Internet paper—**e.News**—can now be read by going to **http://www.clari.net**. From the home page, you click on hypertext links to get to the specific news stories. e.News price remains the same at less than three cents per user per day. At the site you'll also get free summaries of technology articles, financial news and the day's top stories.


ClariNet
Communications Corp.

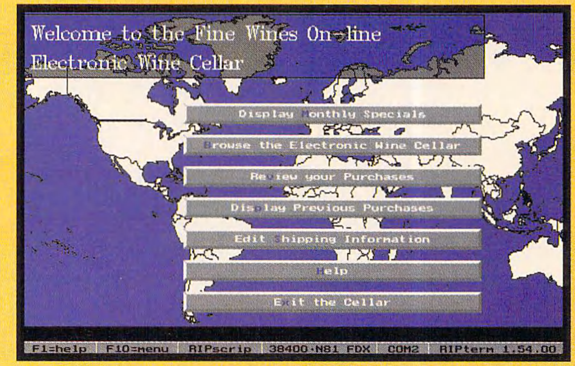
Live news from clari.news.usa.gov.white_house

Updated Tuesday, January 24, 1995, at 3:00 pm Pacific time.

ClariNet moves onto the Web.

Hungry? Visit **Mama's Cucina**, the home page from Ragu Spaghetti Sauce. You'll find delicious recipes and helpful cooking hints, conversational Italian lessons, nutritional and product information and coupons. See what's cooking at **http://www.eat.com**.

New Services



Welcome to the Fine Wines On-line
Electronic Wine Cellar

Display Monthly Specials
Browse the Electronic Wine Cellar
Review your Purchases
Display Previous Purchases
Edit Shipping Information
Help
Exit the Cellar
F1=help | F10=menu | RIPscrip | 38400-N81 FDX | COM2 | RIPterm 1.54.00

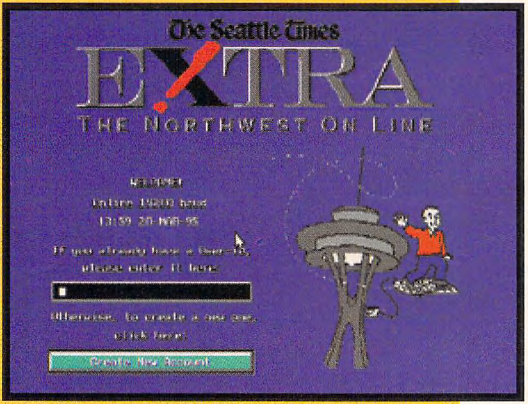
Order wine online via this electronic wine cellar.

Fine wines age, but information about these spirits should not. For a real-time catalog of fine wines that is updated regularly, log on to **Fine Wines On-Line** BBS. From wine supplier Fine Wine Brokers, Inc., this board allows users to review a list of current specials, browse through wine cellars with descriptions of available wines, post questions to a wine master, comment on the quality of a particular wine or inquire about the availability of a specific wine. In addition, you can order wine online. To access Fine Wines On-Line, dial 312-989-8363, modem. For more information, call 312-989-8166, voice.

Individuals living in the Pacific Northwest can get more than just newspaper content from *The Seattle Times* with the publication's new subscription-based BBS, **The Seattle Times Extra** (206-464-8126, modem or 206-927-7100, modem). Internet users can telnet into the board by typing **extra.seatimes.com.**

Extra offers local and Internet e-mail, forums on a variety of topics, classified ads and several newspaper archives. These archives include movie, restaurant, wine and travel destination reviews collected from the past six months of *The Seattle Times*; a searchable restaurant guide featuring entries on more than 2,500 area eateries; and guides to local school districts, government agencies, neighborhood events and transportation resources. In addition, Extra users can exchange ideas with the newspaper's reporters and editorial staff.

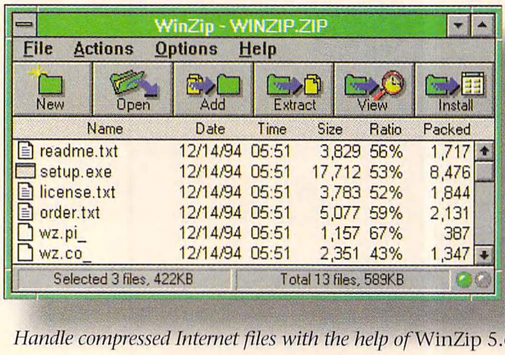
Users either can access Extra in a text-based format, or they can download software that allows them to navigate the service through a graphical interface. It's available to both IBM-compatible and Mac users. A subscription costs $21 for 13 weeks; $36 for 26 weeks; and $60 for 52 weeks. Customer service representatives are available to answer questions between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m PST Monday through Friday, at 206-464-8356, voice.



Get a taste of the Northwest through The Seattle Times Extra BBS.

New Products

With the latest WinZip software program, ***WinZip 5.6.***, you can use an easy drag-and-drop interface when handling popular Internet file compression formats such as TAR, gzip and Unix compress. No external programs are required. In addition to handling Internet files, *WinZip 5.6* also supports ZIP, ARJ, ARC and LZH files. The compression software program from Niko Mak Computing, Inc. is priced at $29. To obtain an evaluation copy of *WinZip 5.6,* ftp to **ftp.winzip.com** and go to the WinZip directory. For technical support, send e-mail to **support@winzip.com**, or go to the WinZip home page at **http://www. winzip.com /winzip/**. To order by telephone, call the Public Software Library at 800-242-4775, voice.



Name	Date	Time	Size	Ratio	Packed
readme.txt	12/14/94	05:51	3,829	56%	1,717
setup.exe	12/14/94	05:51	17,712	53%	8,476
license.txt	12/14/94	05:51	3,783	52%	1,844
order.txt	12/14/94	05:51	5,077	59%	2,131
wz.pi_	12/14/94	05:51	1,157	67%	387
wz.co_	12/14/94	05:51	2,351	43%	1,347

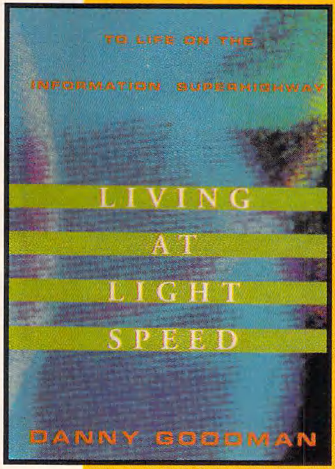
Selected 3 files, 422KB
Total 13 files, 589KB

Handle compressed Internet files with the help of WinZip 5.6.

How can I make money online? It's the million dollar question that SIMBA Information seeks to answer for consumers in its latest report ***Economics of Online Publishing: Strategies for Making Money Online***. Authored by Lorraine Sileo and Peter Krasilovsky, the report looks at opportunities for all types of content providers, from retailers and marketers to publishers and broadcasters. It includes sections on online platforms; economic models of existing services; profiles of leading platform providers, including contact names; and case studies of online content providers such as the Time Inc. Magazine Group, The New York Times Company, Capital Cities/ABC and General Media.

Economics of Online Publishing is available at $1,250 ($1,150 prepaid). To order the report or request more information, write to Tom Schmalzl at SIMBA at P.O. Box 7430, Wilton, CT 06897. Or call 203-834-0033, voice, send a fax to 203-834-1771, fax, or e-mail to **SIMBA99@AOL.com**.

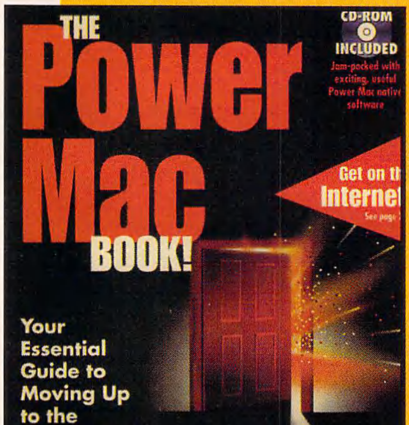
Books


TO LIFE ON THE
INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY
LIVING AT LIGHT SPEED
DANNY GOODMAN

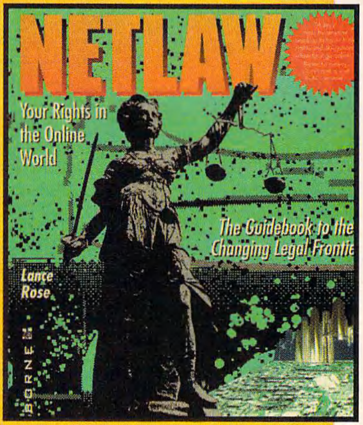
With all the hoopla surrounding the Information Superhighway, it's no surprise that myths and misleading information abound. In ***Living at Light Speed: Your Survival Guide to Life on the Information Superhighway***, author Danny Goodman tries to clarify some of the misunderstandings surrounding this technology. For example, he deflates myths such as "the Information Superhighway will create a world of hermits glued to their computer screens" and "this technology will never affect me." In addition, Goodman takes a look at the "Dark Side" in chapter 6—exploring issues such as privacy, censorship, theft and fraud. He closes with a useful plan of action for his readers to prepare themselves for the arrival of Information Superhighway technology.

The 244-page hardcover *Living at Light Speed* costs $21, U.S.; $28.95, Canada. It is published by Random House Electronic Publishing. ISBN 0-679-43934-X

If you're a little overwhelmed by your new Power Mac, let author Ron Pronk answer all your questions in ***The Power Mac Book***. You'll learn about the technology, the basic features, and software and hardware solutions. The book comes with a CD-ROM that provides you with multimedia programs, demonstration versions of commercial software, software utilities, entertainment and more. For the online crowd, Pronk has included a chapter that covers the Internet, which includes useful information about Internet utilities as well as popular Internet and Web sites for the Mac.

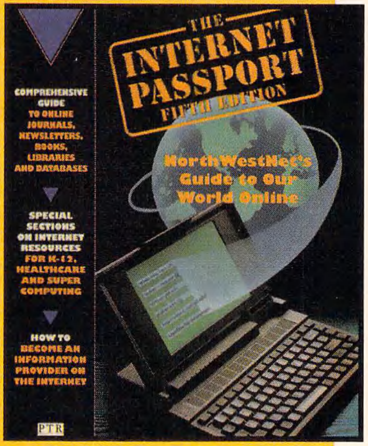

THE
Power
Mac
BOOK!
CD-ROM INCLUDED
Jam-packed with exciting, useful Power Mac native software
Get on th
Interne
See page
Your Essential Guide to Moving Up to the Power Mac
CORIO
GROL

Published by the Coriolis Group Books, the 396-page *The Power Mac Book* costs $34.95, U.S.; $44.95, Canada. ISBN 1-883577-09-8


NETLAW
Your Rights in the Online World
The Guidebook to the Changing Legal Frontie
Lance Rose

Do you know the rights you have and risks you face as a member of the online community? The 372-page ***NetLaw: Your Rights in the Online World*** is written by Lance Rose, a columnist and lawyer specializing in online services. Introducing readers to the world of online law, the book tells you how to make an online contract, what protection the First Amendment provides, how obscenity is defined and what legal risks your company might face online. In addition, readers will find sample contracts, case citations, statutory texts and pointers to other sources of information.

NetLaw: Your Rights in the Online World is published by Osborne McGraw-Hill and is priced at $19.95, U.S. ISBN 0-07-882077-4


THE INTERNET PASSPORT
FIFTH EDITION
NorthWestNet's Guide to Our World Online
COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO ONLINE JOURNALS, NEWSLETTERS, BOOKS, LIBRARIES AND DATABASES
SPECIAL SECTIONS ON INTERNET RESOURCES FOR K-12, HEALTHCARE AND SUPER COMPUTING
HOW TO BECOME AN INFORMATION PROVIDER ON THE INTERNET
PTR

In almost 700 pages, ***The Internet Passport Fifth Edition: NorthWestNet's guide to Our World Online***, covers the tools and resources of the Internet with explanations by information professionals and experienced Internet trainers. The book was written by staff members of NorthWestNet, providers of Internet access to more than 145 organizations. If you're interested in putting information up on the Internet in the form of a Web page, ftp archive, e-mail distribution or a gopher site, this guide will give you information on the advantages and disadvantages of each. Other topics include using the Internet in K-12 schools, researching health and medical information and working with supercomputers. You'll also find out how you can obtain lists of U.S. and non-U.S. Internet service providers.

Published by Prentice Hall, *The Internet Passport* is priced at $29.95, U.S.; $40.95, Canada. ISBN 0-13-194200-X **OA**

Online Update

By Dana Humphrey

AMERICA
Online

America Online

8619 Westwood Center Dr.
Vienna, VA 22182-2285
800-827-6364, voice.

New Features

Meet Mickey Mouse and friends when you take a cyber-tour of Walt Disney World on AOL. Through **Walt Disney World Resort**, prospective Disney visitors can view dozens of color photographs from all of the attractions and theme parks. The service helps you plan all parts of your trip, providing areas such as Golf and Tennis, Nightlife and Shopping, Where to Stay and Guests with Disabilities. In addition, users can complete an e-mail request for hotel reservations. (keyword: **disney**)

For a wide array of Christian information, check out **Christianity Online** (keyword: **christianity**), a service provided by a nonprofit ministry called Christianity Today, Inc. The service is open to people of all faiths. Features include a Christian College Guide, Christian book bargains, employment opportunities, online chat rooms and top religious news stories. You can also find *Today's Christian Woman* (including the cover) and *Christianity Today* magazines.

History buffs can absorb all kinds of trivia on AOL. Type keyword **columnists** for daily facts about any day in history, in addition to daily quotes, famous birthdays and more. For glimpses into the past, check out **The Times Looks Back**. You'll find articles and pictures that appeared in *The New York Times* during historical events such as Woodstock '69 and the March on Washington. (keyword: **@times**)

If movies are your thing, a new AOL service called **Film Scouts** is your ticket to entertainment. Available on Hollywood Online, Film Scouts provides capsule reviews of current movies from the majors, as well as hot tips on independent and foreign films. Discuss timely topics with movie critics, read or register your thoughts about specific films or allow an intrepid reporter to take you to such exclusive star-studded events as the opening night of the Cannes Film Festival. You can even read about a prominent member of the film industry in *FilmScoutZine*, Film Scouts' very own online publication. To access Film Scouts, type keyword **hollywood** and choose Film Scouts from the main menu.

If you haven't clicked to **The Atlantic Monthly Online** in awhile, type keyword **atlantic** to see all of its new features and graphics. The first screen displays an image of the current issue's cover as well as a preview of upcoming events and noteworthy features. In the new department Flashbacks and Followups, *The Atlantic Monthly* staff brings together a collection of past *Atlantic* articles on topics they feel have gained new urgency and tries to shed new light on the subject. Another new area, Editors Unbound, spotlights the work of *Atlantic* editors that extends well beyond the pages of the magazine. Users will also find challenging word games, puzzles and contests. (Prizes include free hours on AOL.)

Of course, you can still access articles and archives from *The Atlantic Monthly*. (keyword: **atlantic**)

The Washington Compost is a free weekly AOL/Internet political humor newsletter that bashes both the left and right equally. No subject or person is exempt from the satirical slams. The newsletter, read by over 150 AOL members, covers topics ranging from the Republicans' plan to end poverty to the U.N.'s attempt to improve its image. People who are interested in the *Compost* can either go to keyword **capital** on AOL and check it out in the General Download Library, or hunt and peck through **alt.politics.usa.misc** on Fridays or Saturdays. Another option is to send an e-mail to Steve Gordon at **MeSteve@ix.netcom.com**, letting him know you want to be included on the mailing list.

America Online

CompuServe

CompuServe, Inc.
5000 Arlington Centre Blvd.
P.O. Box 20212
Columbus, OH 43220
800-848-8199, voice

New Features and Forums

CompuServe wants to be your number one online choice. It's packing the network with lots of new features and forums. If you haven't ventured beyond your usual visiting places lately, it's time to do some exploring.

The first change you might notice is CompuServe's remodeled forums. Forum library file names will expand to eight characters with a three-character extension. Also, file descriptions will include uploader names. Both of these features will make it easier to track files mentioned in the message boards. Forum mail will cost less, too. Sysops will now forward unread replies to users' e-mail boxes at no charge. This saves money for those who don't log on more than once a week.

Although at this time, only 18 beta (test) forums have undergone the transition, CompuServe expects all of its forums to have the new look by the end of the summer. Current test forums include IBM Communications forum (go **pccom**), Mac Communications forum (go **maccomm**), Play-by-Mail Games forum (go **pbmgame**) and Political Debate forum (go **politics**), to name a few.

The **Windows Utilities forum** is a great addition to the Windows Users Group Network. This new area has updates to the very best in Windows utility applications. Get the latest features in popular programs like *WinZip*, *Plug-In*, *SpinWizard*, *Space Hound* and *ToolPal*. These programs are supported by their authors and technical support staffs. You will also find scores of utilities in the forum's 20 libraries. Get uninstallers, file manager add-ons, text editors and diagnostic tools. If you use Windows NT, download programs to make it more stable. To get there, go **winutil** or **winzip**.

Get your reading done online by browsing newspapers and magazines via computer. *The Free Press* (go **detforum**) offers financial advice by its award-winning financial writer Steve Advokat in *The Detroit Free Press* forum's Library 18, Personal Finance. Also read stories from other *Free Press* reporters on a variety of subjects. You'll find discussions on the following issues: What if the Dow Jones Industrial Average topped 4,000? (file DW0216.TXT). How does inflation attack your personal financial lifestyle? (file IN0209.TXT). What are the financial struggles women face today? (file FI0125.TXT). Other topics include tips on saving for a special vacation and planning long-term investment goals for college tuition or retirement.

If sporting events are your passion, become a regular on **Sports Illustrated Online**. Each Wednesday the magazine offers the full text of its current issue. It also provides selected photographs, news, scores and statistics. Besides magazine text, SI Online features a section where you can talk about sports with *Sports Illustrated's* writers, editors and other sports fans. To access **Sports Illustrated Online** and the main SI menu, go **sports**. To access the *Sports Illustrated* forum, go **siforum**. To access the photo gallery, go **siimages**. To access the magazine, go **simagazine**.

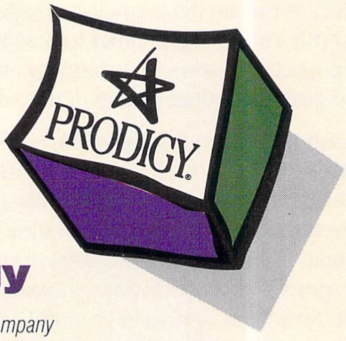
Broaden your world view by joining the new **World Community forum** (go **wcommunity**). Chat with other members worldwide about travel, health, business, education, television, movies and sports. Especially interesting are sections on local and global current events and issues. This is a great way to learn about an unfamiliar region's people and culture. Practice your language skills here, too. The forum offers threads in English, French, German and Spanish. Machine translation software automatically translates topic threads into each language. Don't expect perfectly readable English, though. Machine translation is a new technology and doesn't always create exact translations.

Ziffnet, part of CompuServe's extended services, also has plenty of new attractions. For example, you can get a jump on breaking computer industry news by reading free daily news stories from ***PC Week*** (go **pcnews**) and ***MacWEEK*** (go **macweek**). The two computer publications post news items up to six days before their official print dates. This new service is a free benefit to ZiffNet members. Some stories are for online publication only, while others appear in the printed magazine. Included in the service is "Coop's Corner," a daily column written by leading computer industry pundit Charlie Cooper.

Ziffnet recently launched a new public brand software forum to spotlight educational software. The **PBS Education forum** (go **pbseducation**) is ZiffNet's main repository for teaching tools, reference files, tutorials and electronic books. The Preschool Library features programs like Bert's Dinosaurs (BERTDN.XIP), a popular computer coloring book, while the High School/College Library has a basic algebra tutorial (BALG.ZIP). Other libraries include computing tutorials for DOS and Windows, adult education files and reference files like the Acronym Program (TAP.ZIP), a popular computer database. There's also an entire library devoted to electronic books with everything from Shakespearean sonnets to *Zen and the Art of the Internet*.

—Jack Germain

Online Update



Prodigy

Prodigy Services Company
445 Hamilton Ave.
White Plains, NY 10601
800-PRODIGY, voice

Don't Buy a Car Without Prodigy

Thinking about buying a new or used car? Jump **cars** for the Automobiles menu—a comprehensive collection of very useful information about cars. Begin with the icon marked News/Reviews. This includes the online version of *Consumer Reports'* (CR) New Car Recommendations. CR also discusses issues such as leasing, safety and ratings. Click on the 1995 Cars icon for photos, reviews and specifications on 25 different models, plus polls and articles.

Next, choose the New Vehicles icon from the menu to read about CR road tests and auto buying. You can also obtain a price comparison worksheet and a checklist for buying a new car. For a small fee ($4 each), you can download new vehicle reports, which give you all the specs plus the retail and the dealer invoice prices on cars. AutoVantage offers free used car valuations for buyers and sellers.

The Automobiles menu also has icons for Auto Recalls, Finance/Insurance, Parts/Service and Accessories. You can order interactive promotional materials online, too.

Jump **saturn** and **auto** for two car-related bulletin boards and for easy chat room access. Many car companies have extended ads that are set up like mini forums where you can view photos, preview new models, scan reviews and more. Some of the jump words include **chrysler**, **ford**, **saturn**, **chevrolet**, **pontiac**, **mazda**, **bmw**, **honda** and **toyota**.

What's New

E-Mail Connection for Windows, an offline reader by Connectsoft, is add-on software that automatically logs on to Prodigy, grabs your mail, uploads your outgoing letters and logs off. Because mailbox time is no longer free, it can save heavy e-mail users a lot of money. *E-Mail Connection* costs $14.95 for the Prodigy-only version. Jump **email connection** to download and jump **prodigy exchange bb** for the *E-Mail Connection* topic.

In further e-mail news, Prodigy took a byte out of fees as of early March. Uploading and downloading on Prodigy will be a timed charge only without additional byte charges. Also new is the ability to make file transfers in e-mail. And finally, multimedia e-mail is here: Now anyone with the Windows version of the Prodigy software can send photos and sound clips via e-mail.

In related news, sound has come to the personal ad. Jump **classifieds** to find out more about new "Online Personals," which are $2 personal ads with a twist. Just call the 900 number, enter a numerical code and listen and respond to the voice behind the ad or ads of your choice. There are 5,000 personals to look at and listen to. You can even choose those from a particular area code.

In a previous column, the trials and tribulations of the controversial adoption topics were mentioned. After a letter-writing campaign and an electronic petition by the adoption topic regulars, Prodigy created a new home for all of the adoption topics called the **Social Issues BB**. Other related topics are expected to join this BB in coming months.

For Kids

Tekno Comix is an online, science-fiction, comic book center based on the new Tekno line of print comic books with titles like "Leonard Nimoy's Primortals," "Neil Gaiman's Mr. Hero" and "Gene Roddenberry's Lost Universe." The artwork is dark, sinister and superb. Jump **tekno** for quizzes, games, comic book art, interviews, a fan club and news. Tekno has its own online guide, a digital fugitive named Neuro Jack. Caution! Neuro Jack has been known to pop out of nowhere and eat computer screens. There is also a Tekno Comix BB (separate from the Comics BB), and you can jump **tekno store** for clothes, jewelry and accessories. There's a lot to do here for kids of all ages, so watch the clock—Tekno is a PLUS feature.

Freebies

Jump **free offer** to shop for an ever-expanding array of freebies, from software courtesy of the Bits & Bytes Club to magazines, catalogs and even a trial membership in the National Audubon Society.

Jump **fodors** if you have a travel bug, and download free information about events in cities around the world, with something new every day. You can also purchase travel booklets from Fodor's Worldview. I clicked the freebie on Kyoto, Japan, and printed out 12 yummy pages about the local cuisine. Deep-fried tofu anyone?

—Rita Laws

Delphi

Delphi Internet Services Corp.
1030 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138
800-695-4005, voice

Delphi members will soon be able to navigate the Web using Netscape technology. Netscape is a powerful WWW navigator developed by Netscape Communications Corporation.

Delphi is also developing what it calls a "third generation" interface, incorporating audio, video and hyperlinking capabilities. The interface will be built around emerging Internet standards like TCP/IP, POP (for mail), gopher, WWW and HTML.

GEnie

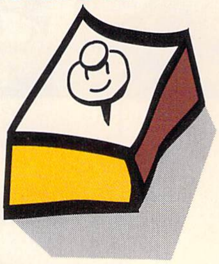
General Electric Information Services
401 N. Washington St.
Rockville, MD 20849-6403
800-638-9636, voice

GEnie has undergone some major changes: Be on the lookout for a brand new Windows interface, lower prime time access costs, more multiplayer games and online GIF viewing.

In addition, GEnie is offering full Internet access, including telnet, gopher, archie, e-mail, newsgroups, veronica, fingers and WWW text. Starting in August, GEnie will offer a graphical Web browser. Pricing for Internet access had not yet been determined. (keyword: **internet**)

Finally, more than 10 associations and groups, including the **American Kidney Fund** and **The Planetary Society**, have set up public areas on GEnie. Other associations on board GEnie include: International Palm Society, Materials Technology Institute, National Association of the Remodeling Industry, National Propane Gas Association, National Writer's Association, Ontario Underwater Council, Screenprinting and Graphic Imaging Association International and Self Help for Hard of Hearing People.

The ImagiNation Network



The ImagiNation Network, Inc.
577 Airport Blvd.
Burlingame, CA 94010
800-IMAGIN-1, voice
415-548-2500, voice

ImagiNation Network members now can access the service at lower evening prices. In addition, they have a wider variety of rate plans to choose from and more ways to earn free hours.

Five plans are available, with the most economical plan allowing members to be online for less than $2 an hour. In addition to the new rates, ImagiNation Network members can also participate in a new Sign-up a Friend promotion, which rewards members with five free hours for bringing newcomers to the service. Call for details on how to join the network or for pricing information. **OA**

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free.org
715 743-1600

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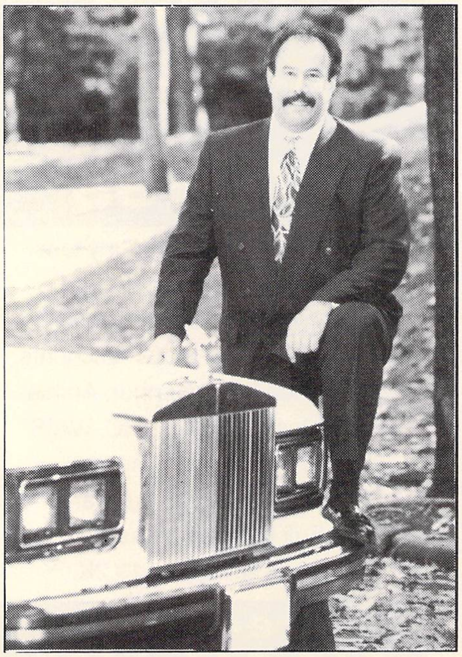

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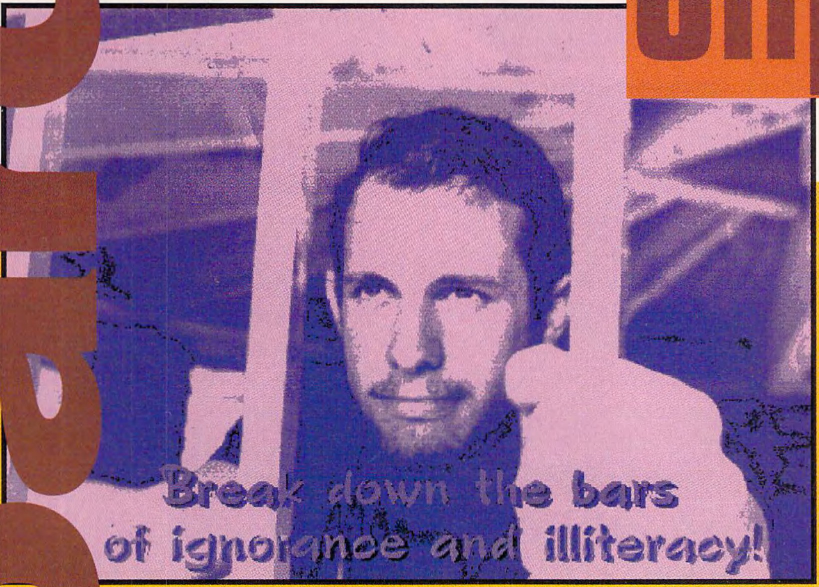


The Internet's Public Library

Michael Hart believes in "unlimited distribution." That's why he began Project Gutenberg, with the lofty goal of making 10,000 e-texts available on the Internet by the year 2001. A professor of e-text at Illinois Benedictine College, Hart humbly began what is now Project Gutenberg in 1971 by inputting the text of the Declaration of Independence. Today, more than 250 works are available, with 16 new texts scheduled to be released each month. Users can download everything from Thoreau's *Walden* and Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* to U.S. census figures dating back to the year 1630, Clinton's inaugural address, the square root of two (to five million digits) and Ed Krol's *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Internet*.

What makes Project Gutenberg so successful? Hundreds of people from all over the world—from Dallas and New York to Malaysia and Italy—volunteer their time to input works of their choice. Some type texts in with antiquated computers; others use sophisticated scanning equipment. Many people input one favorite book, while others do lots of different works. Hart sends out a "call" for volunteers every six months, but, he says, most people come to him asking to be involved.

Hart worries that the goal of inputting 10,000 e-texts by the year 2001 might be in danger because Congress is trying to tack on an extra 20 years to the current copyright periods. With 90 percent of Project Gutenberg's works in the public domain, a copyright extension could reduce the number of electronic works that can be made available through the Internet.

Despite any roadblocks, however, Project Gutenberg, referred to by many as the "Internet public library," continues on.

For more information or for a catalog of current e-texts available, send e-mail to **dircompg@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu**.—*Naomi Kogan Dein*

Industry Byte: Companies View the 'Net as a Sales Tool

Sales and marketing on the Internet is a top priority for U.S. companies, according to a survey of the nation's business leaders. Among the chief financial officers polled, 46 percent say their sales and marketing efforts stand to benefit most from the Information Superhighway; 36 percent believe customer support and communications departments will benefit most; and six percent point to research.

The national poll includes responses from 1,000 chief financial officers who were randomly selected from U.S. companies with more than 20 employees. The survey was developed by RHI Consulting, a specialized staffing service.—*Dana Humphrey*

Once Upon an Online

Photographer Tustin Ellison displays his work online.

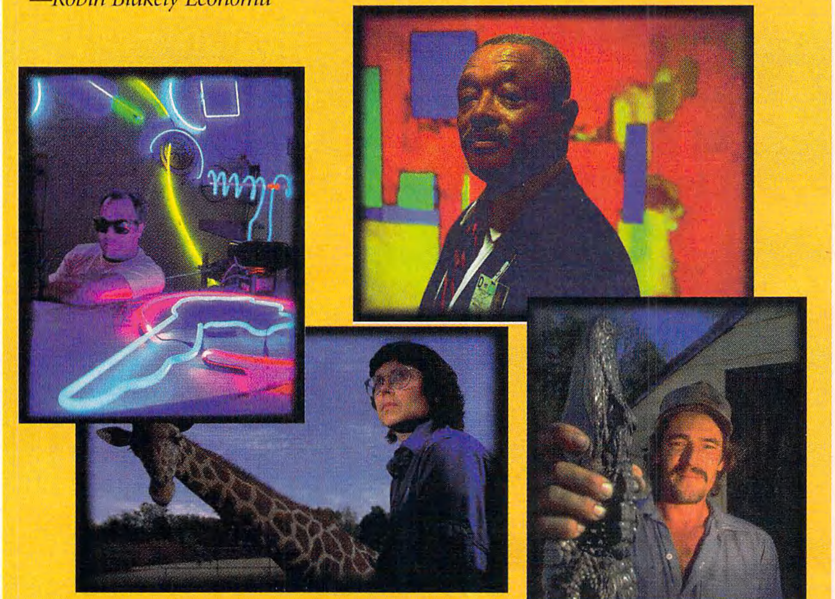
Imagine a young man with a camera, a love for online technology and a computer. Put him in a Honda with a map of the United States and a dream to follow its borders looking for adventure. You've just met Tustin Ellison, a 30-year-old California photographer. He's a down-to-earth guy with an artistic eye, the heart of a fine storyteller and just the kind of smarts to use online technology to its fullest.

During a recent four-month trek around the United States, Ellison invited family, friends and clients to join him in his adventures in the only way he knew they could. Every night, Ellison lugged his trusty Macintosh into a hotel room and logged on to America Online. Then, he entertained cyber-travelers by transmitting memorable images and short profiles of everyday folks he'd met on his road trip.

"Lots of photojournalists would've looked for the dramatic, but I looked for everyday people that caught my eye," Ellison says. "I wanted to choose average men and women and then find out what was interesting in their lives. I wanted to get a real slice of Americana—a real feel for the rich fabric that makes up this great country of ours."

Like some sort of fairy tale, Ellison's adventures ranged from the whimsical to the freakish. He met an alligator farmer in Louisiana, a green-eyebrowed techno dancer in Florida, a neon sign maker in Michigan, a giraffe veterinarian in North Dakota and hundreds more. Ellison not only used America Online to transmit his digitized photographs and roadside stories through cyberspace, but he also used the online service as his message center, to set up appointments and maintain contact with people regarding other freelance assignments.

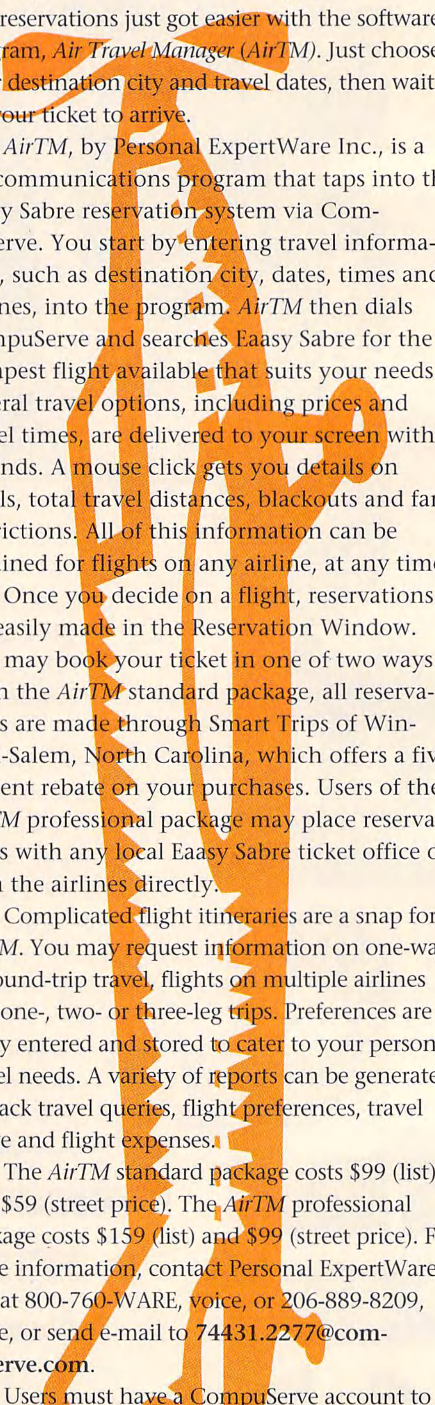
In the end, Ellison says, he has a collection of photographs and statements that define the desires of real Americans. "I learned that average Americans don't want to be big shots. They aren't out to make millions. They just want to live their lives in a respectable manner with three square meals, a movie once a week and a certain pride for being who they are."
—Robin Blakely Economu



These are a few of the images of "everyday people" Ellison placed on AOL.

Software Review

AirTM: The Only Way to Fly



Be your own virtual travel agent. Making airline reservations just got easier with the software program, *Air Travel Manager (AirTM)*. Just choose your destination city and travel dates, then wait for your ticket to arrive.

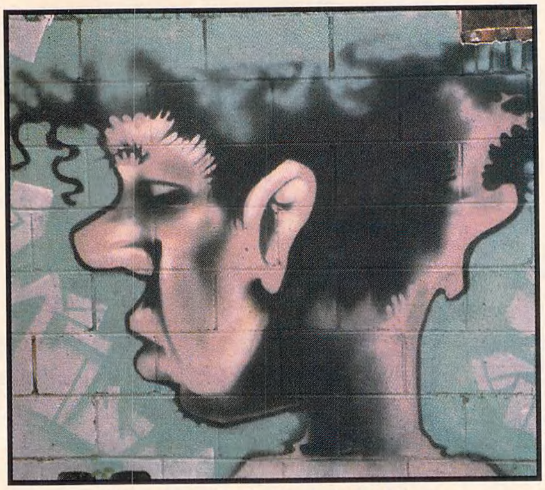
AirTM, by Personal ExpertWare Inc., is a telecommunications program that taps into the Eaasy Sabre reservation system via CompuServe. You start by entering travel information, such as destination city, dates, times and airlines, into the program. *AirTM* then dials CompuServe and searches Eaasy Sabre for the cheapest flight available that suits your needs. Several travel options, including prices and travel times, are delivered to your screen within seconds. A mouse click gets you details on meals, total travel distances, blackouts and fare restrictions. All of this information can be obtained for flights on any airline, at any time.

Once you decide on a flight, reservations are easily made in the Reservation Window. You may book your ticket in one of two ways. With the *AirTM* standard package, all reservations are made through Smart Trips of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, which offers a five percent rebate on your purchases. Users of the *AirTM* professional package may place reservations with any local Eaasy Sabre ticket office or with the airlines directly.

Complicated flight itineraries are a snap for *AirTM*. You may request information on one-way or round-trip travel, flights on multiple airlines and one-, two- or three-leg trips. Preferences are easily entered and stored to cater to your personal travel needs. A variety of reports can be generated to track travel queries, flight preferences, travel usage and flight expenses.

The *AirTM* standard package costs $99 (list) and $59 (street price). The *AirTM* professional package costs $159 (list) and $99 (street price). For more information, contact Personal ExpertWare Inc. at 800-760-WARE, voice, or 206-889-8209, voice, or send e-mail to **74431.2277@compuserve.com**.

Users must have a CompuServe account to access the Eaasy Sabre reservation system, which is available to CompuServe members at no extra charge. CompuServe membership costs $9.95 per month; new members receive the first month free plus a $15 credit toward usage of extended services. For more information, call 800-524-3388, voice. *—Carol Freer*



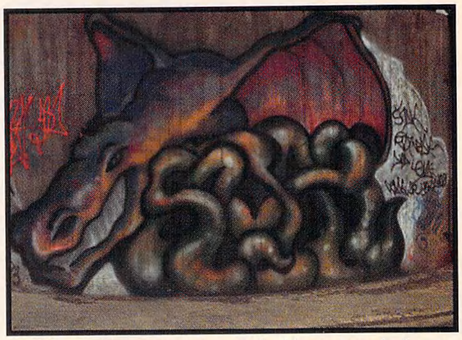
Susan Farrell took this photo in Atlanta.
The graffiti art was created by Noah.

A Disappearing Art Form

Unless it's captured in some way, graffiti art can disappear very quickly, sometimes being painted over the same day it goes up. In an effort to preserve the art, Georgia Tech graduate student and amateur photographer Susan Farrell has created a Web site called Art Crimes: The Writing on the Wall (**http://www.gatech.edu/desoto/graf/Index.Art_Crimes.html**). The site began in September 1994 with 150 photographs of graffiti that Farrell took in Atlanta and during a visit to Prague. Today, 700 images from 22 cities all over the world—from Sao Paulo to Amsterdam—are viewed by 20,000 people each month, including scholars in urban anthropology, art history and communications.

Farrell named her site Art Crimes, because painting graffiti is illegal in most places. In some cities, such as Chicago, even the sale of spray paint has been banned to kids under the age of 18. As a result, most of the site's contributors are photographers rather than the artists themselves. "The artists want to stay underground," Farrell notes. "They're not interested in making contact with the public." The few that she has spoken with, however, are very supportive of the Web site because it doesn't "seek to exploit them by profiting from their work."

Graffiti art began in New York City in the 1970s, mostly on the outsides of subway trains. Farrell notes that most of it is being done today by teenagers, although people of all ages, races and nationalities take part. Farrell and main collaborator Brett Webb, a computer science student at the University of Southern California, aim to spread the truth about graffiti—that it is art created primarily by artists, not by violent gang members. They hope that "cities will make peace with graffiti artists by giving them legal walls on which they can do their best work for us all to enjoy."—*NKD*



This graffiti art, photographed in Prague in June 1994, is now on the Web.

Online Project to Help Seriously Ill Children

Steven Spielberg is just one of the people currently working on an unnamed online game to enable seriously ill children to socialize and have fun with other kids. Using a navigable multiuser operating system called KA WORLDS, kids will be able to interact with each other in virtual environments. Children will be able to see themselves on the computer screen, represented by a cartoon figure, and connect with other kids through the Internet. The user can actually jump into a cartoon and control the action of the main character.

Some of the virtual environments will be unique to the service while others will be highly realistic, like the Eiffel Tower. The technology will allow the child to move in ways only possible in cyberspace, such as flying.

The project is targeted toward seriously ill children because they tend to be limited in the amount of contact they can have with other kids and with the world outside the hospital. But as electronic characters, these kids are limitless in what they can do, where they can go or who they can play with.

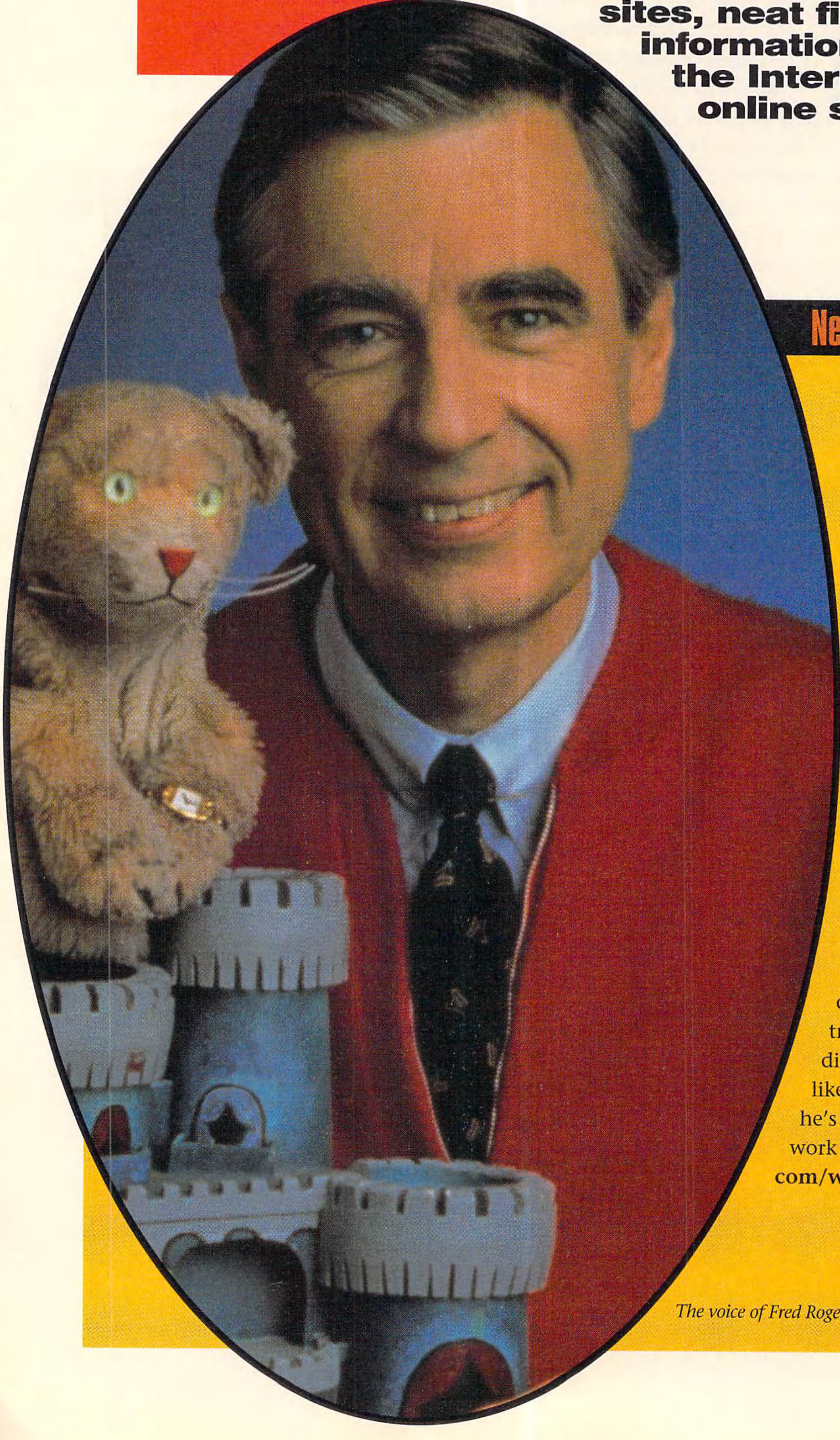
Knowledge Adventure Worlds and the Starbright Pediatric Network plan to have the project ready by this summer. Currently, the technology is being beta-tested in the San Francisco Bay area only. A digital press conference to launch the process is scheduled for early this month.

A similar project in the form of an online service will be unveiled in late 1995 for the general public. Called Interactive World's Fair, the user will be able to walk around an online world's fair as a self-created cartoon character. More information is available by contacting Knowledge Adventure Worlds at 800-446-3636, voice. —*Rita Laws* **OA**

Internet Insider℠

Your guide to hot topics, cool sites, neat files and other information sprawled over the Internet and various online services.

By Jim Romenesko



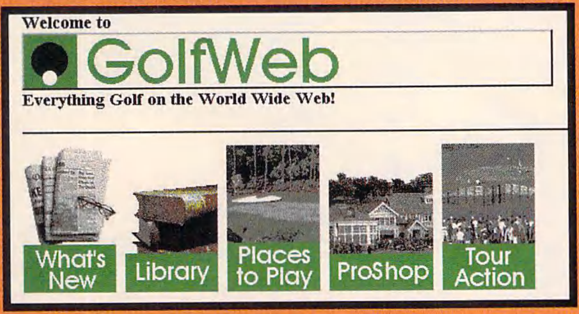
The voice of Fred Rogers greets you on the PBS home page.

New on Romenesko's Web Hotlist

It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood. The familiar voice of Fred Rogers greets you from a sound file at the PBS home page (**http://www.pbs.org**). The site really is more than a "sandbox for the rich," as Newt Gingrich has claimed public television to be. There's a searchable monthly program guide, PBS miscellaneous information and links to public television stations around the country. Visit the site while it's still federally funded!

Vicarious living. World traveler, writer and filmmaker Russell Johnson says travel brochures don't do a good job capturing the beauty of faraway lands. He should know—he's been to 43 countries in the last dozen years. Now he's sharing his travel experiences with 'Netters via his diaries, pictures and sounds from places like Sri Lanka and the North Pole. While he's usually found on the road, Johnson's work is staying put at **http://www.well.com/www/wldtrvlr**.

'Net Cruisin': More Places to Check Out



Golfers can get into the swing of things at this site.

Make this your 19th hole. Duffers and pros alike will appreciate the golf stuff at the GolfWeb home page (**http://www.golfweb.com/**). In addition to golf stats and all-time records, this well-maintained page has live reporting from major golf tournaments and up-to-the-minute tourney results. There's online golf shopping and travel services—a sort of cyberspace clubhouse without the post-round martinis.

The gopher newsstand. If you're the sort who loiters at newsstands and skims as many magazines as possible before getting the boot, you'll want to gopher to **mag-browse.com**—a four-star hangout in my book. Here, you get the tables of contents of 39 computer magazines—yup, **ONLINE ACCESS** is included—30 sports magazines, 33 music and entertainment rags and 21 electronic and computer game publications. GIFs of the magazine covers are there, too. This newsstand is updated every Monday.

That old college humor isn't dead yet. You'll find that out for yourself by sampling Amherst College's humor magazine, *Citizen Poke*, which is in Adobe PDF format. (You'll need an Acrobat reader, which is free.) I got *Citizen Poke*—a packed publication with two parts to download, for a total of two megabytes—by ftping to **mirrors.aol.com** and going to this directory: **/pub/info-mac/per/citizen-poke-005a-pdf.hqx.** (The second part is the 005b file.) The kids put this out monthly, so check this Macintosh site regularly for new issues if you become a fan.

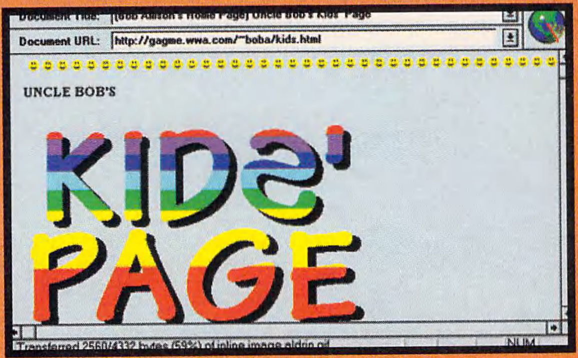
While you have that Acrobat reader. You can use it to read an eight-page Web version of *The New York Times*, available nightly at **http://nytimesfax.com.** The Acrobat reader makes the online version look very similar to the paper you buy at the newsstand. Generally, you can download the next day's online paper at about 10 p.m. CST. Each edition has a sampling of business, world, national and sports news.

Raves explained. If you're over 40, you've probably heard about raves, but can't quite understand them. What are smart drinks? How about smart drugs? And why the baggy pants as part of the raver's required garb? Get these answers, along with pictures of ravers, rave flyers and FAQ (frequently-asked-questions) files by gophering to **gopher.hyperreal.com.** There are intriguing online publications here, too, that real rave fanatics will enjoy and actually understand.

The verdict is still out. She was a star during the O.J. trial, but will prosecutor Marcia Clark's popularity be sustained after a verdict? For clues, watch the postings on the **alt.fan.marcia-clark** newsgroup, which was hopping with activity in early spring. The discussions ranged from petty disputes over her kids' ages, to serious (if not somewhat frightening) hero-worship writings. There was even a movement to draft her into the 1996 presidential race. Wrote one fan: "I mean, if you can elect Ronald Reagan as president, surely Marcia would have a good chance. She's strong, determined and has a good sense of what's right and wrong." That may be, but have all of her nannies been legal in the past?

Attention crime literature aficionados. Be sure to jump over to the **alt.true-crime** newsgroup, where several literary celebs have been hanging out lately. Prolific true-crime writer Jack Olsen recently introduced himself there and even asked 'Netters for suggestions on what his next book should be about. He's been an interesting addition to the group, which also has recent posts from crime writers Ann Rule and Gary C. King. Another visitor is well-known zine editor John Marr, who edits the not-as-scary-as-it-sounds fanzine *Murder Can Be Fun*. With these experts, the talk is always sharp here.

One for the kids. Uncle Bob's Kids' Page is a veritable playground for inquisitive youngsters. With everything from Sega game information and LEGO fun stuff to volcano facts and images, this page is a pleasant (and sometimes educational) online alternative to passive television fare. Uncle Bob can be found at **http://gagme.wwa.com/~boba/kids.html.** **OA**


Document Title: [Bob Allison's Home Page] Uncle Bob's Kids' Page
Document URL: http://gagme.wwa.com/~boba/kids.html
UNCLE BOB'S
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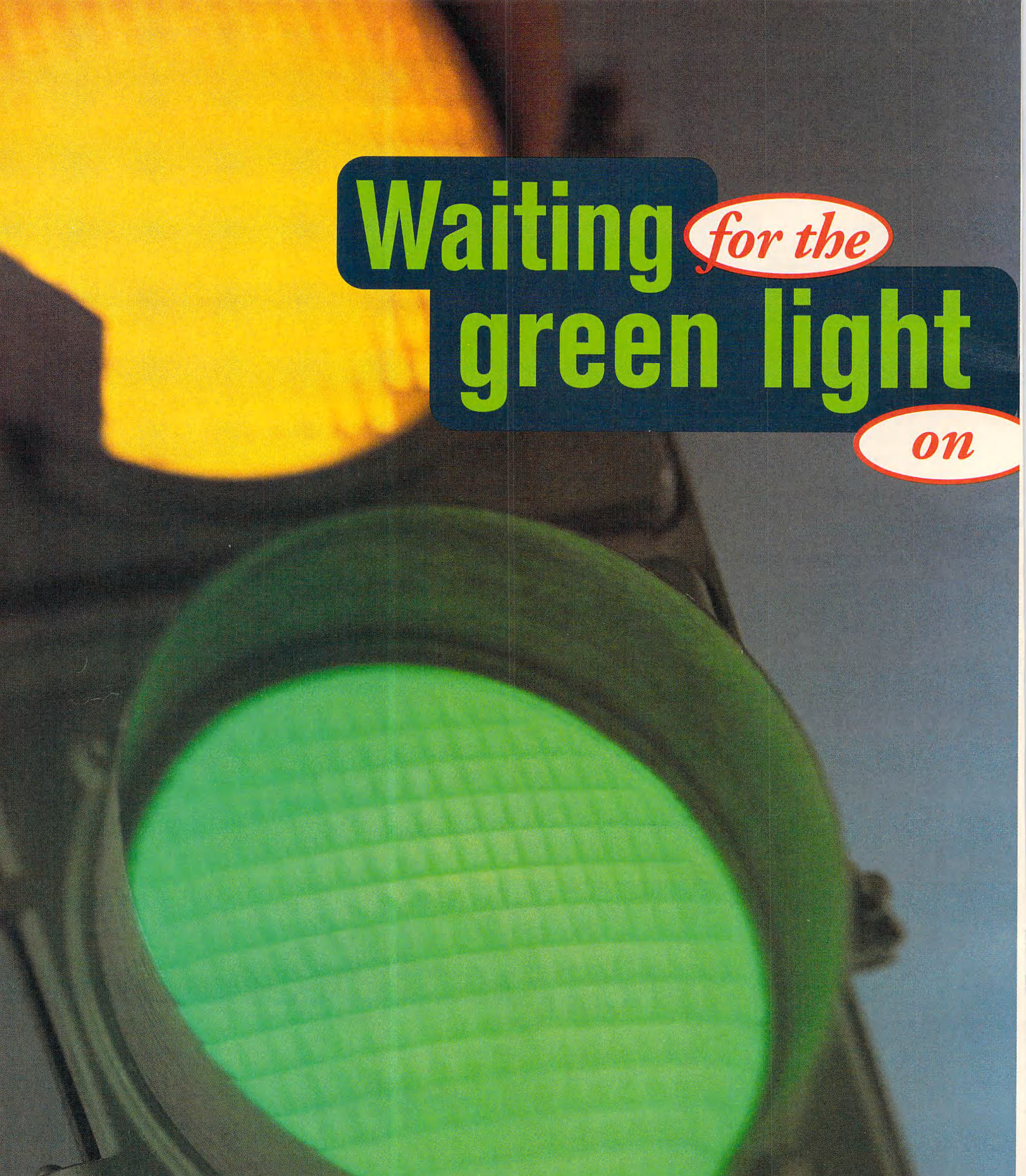
For some fun, take the kids to Uncle Bob's.

Jim Romenesko can be reached at
obscure@csd4.csd.uwm.edu



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By David Noack

Online Democracy

Get the latest on hot political issues straight from the horse's mouth, our nation's capital.

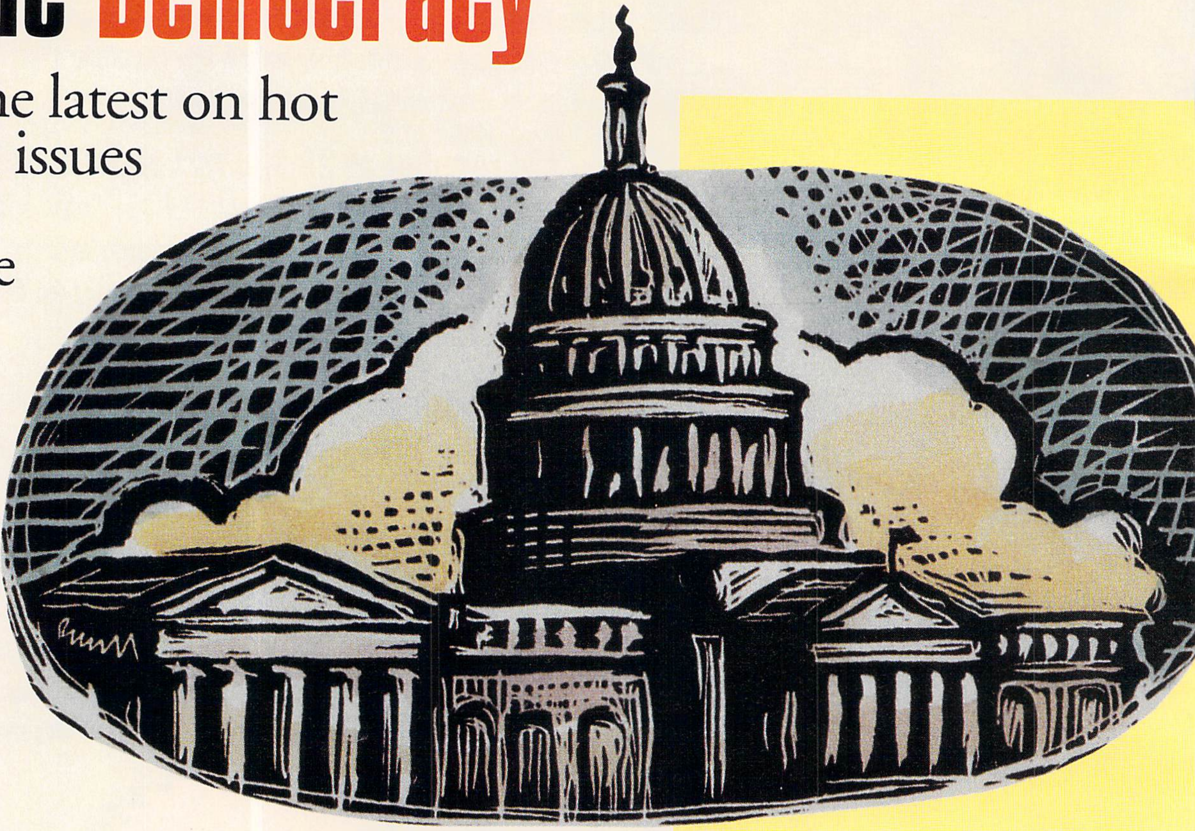

Illustration: Bill Russel © /SIS Stock Illustration

If you've never toured the White House or visited Washington, D.C., going online is the next best thing. Now you can take a virtual tour of the White House, browse through press releases from your local Congressperson, read the full text of President Clinton's speeches, search for job openings at the Department of Justice, follow your local Congressperson's activities (and even read their windy speeches and debates), without stepping a foot into the D.C. area. All of this and more is easily accessible online, no matter where you live in the United States.

Various electronic sources collect and disseminate information about the goings-on at our nation's capital. For example, commercial online services such as Prodigy, CompuServe and America Online host political, electoral and government forums. Various Internet sites are devoted to the White House, Congress, government, political issues and more. Even the federal government itself contributes by operating dozens of dial-up bulletin boards.

With an abundance of information about politics and government at your fingertips, where are the best places to spend your valuable online time? Here are 10 suggestions.

1. The White House

WWW: **http://www.whitehouse.gov**

Whether or not you are a fan of Bill Clinton's, it's always interesting to know what he has to say about the economy, foreign affairs and domestic policies. And if you missed a presidential speech on TV, you can find it at this Web site. The technology-savvy White House has created "The Interactive Citizens' Handbook," which offers an extensive list of the goings-on at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. You'll find press releases, speeches, presidential appointments, schedules and more. This is also your opportunity to take a tour of the White House.

2. Library of Congress

gopher: **gopher marvel.loc.gov**

The Library of Congress is one of the great national repositories of all kinds of information, such as census bureau data and state department reports. At the Library of Congress gopher site, you can access a wide range of governmental information, from the day-to-day business of Congress to the full text of Supreme Court rulings. You also can review information from executive branch agencies, such as the Federal Communications Commission or the Department of Justice; obtain the House of Representative's weekly schedule; check on the status of a bill; or read up on last year's election results.

3. Thomas

WWW: **http://thomas.loc.gov**

Thomas, named after President Thomas Jefferson, is a recent Web site started by the Library of Congress that offers a vast array of Congressional information. You can search for any bills introduced in the previous 103rd Congress and the current 104th Congress. You can also get the full text of the daily *Congressional Record*, learn how the nation's laws are made and check out the new resolution governing functions of the House of Representatives during the 104th Congress.

4. talk.politics.misc

Usenet newsgroups offer a wide variety of political and government partisan debate. One such newsgroup, **talk.politics.misc**, offers diverse views and opinions on all sorts of political issues and topics. Recently, there was discussion about the 1996 Republican Presidential Nominating Convention and a debate about funding for the Public Broadcasting System. In addition, abstracts and full text of General Accounting Office (GAO) reports are posted regularly. Whatever your political interests or affiliation, you're bound to find both supporters and opponents here.

5. FedWorld

WWW: **http://www.fedworld.gov**
telnet: **telnet fedworld.gov** (login: **new**)

Created by the National Technical Information Service, which is part of the Commerce Department, FedWorld offers more than 130 government bulletin boards with access to a vast array of government agencies and departments. Through FedWorld, you can access databases of government reports as well as federal government information servers that contain information about manufacturing, education, space technology and transportation.

6. Republican/Democrat

CompuServe
keywords: **democrat, republican**

While Democrats and Republicans don't agree on much, at least there are places they can go to discuss and debate hot issues such as the GOP's takeover of Congress, welfare reform legislation and 1996 Republican presidential nominees. News about the two major political parties is available via CompuServe's Democratic and Republican Forums, where all sorts of party debate and information can be found. There's also plenty of political party information in the forums' libraries.

7. Capital Connection

America Online
keywords: **capital, politics, government**

America Online's Capital Connection provides political junkies with a wide selection of information from which to obtain political and government news. You can read political news prepared by *ABC News* polls, or review summaries of public affairs broadcasts such as the *McLaughlin Group*, National Public Radio or *Washington Week in Review*. Message boards, which hash out partisan differences, include titles such as Political Viewpoint, Pending Legislation, Federal Budget and Taxes, General Debate and The Fence Post.

8. Political Profile

Prodigy
keyword: **reference**

Prodigy's Political Profile is a database that offers a comprehensive guide to the U.S. Congress. It provides biographies of Congressional members, committee assignments, votes on key issues, political action committees and interest group ratings. The database also provides an analysis by state of the 1994 Congressional and gubernatorial elections.

9. Project Vote Smart

gopher: **gopher.neu.edu**

The Project Vote Smart is a valuable online resource for political junkies and civic-minded citizens. If you want to know specific details about a Congressional or gubernatorial candidate or officeholder, such as who's funding the candidate's campaign, where the candidate stands on certain issues or how he or she is rated by different lobbying groups, Project Vote Smart is the place for you. The service was started in 1992 to offer reporters quick and nonpartisan information about incumbents and challengers. Over the past four years, Project Vote Smart, run out of Corvallis, Oregon, has expanded its offerings. Last year, the service went online via a dial-up bulletin board and the Internet.

10. Federal Bulletin Board

modem: 202-512-1387

While the government runs dozens of dial-up bulletin boards, the Federal Bulletin Board is one of its most comprehensive offerings. Overseen by the superintendent of public documents at the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), this BBS houses most government documents and publications and offers a mixture of free and fee-based access files and documents. Users are given free access to government reports and press releases in some areas, while other areas require users to have an account in order to access information or to order a particular document. **OA**

By Scott Arpajian

A CompuServe Toolbox

Find out what software programs you need to make your CompuServe visits more affordable and enjoyable.

CompuServe

Illustration: Jeff Berlin

Ah, CompuServe. On one hand, it's a vital online resource with hundreds of forums, databases and file areas. Despite the recent popularity of America Online, CompuServe still holds an edge as the premier source of information among the major online services. On the other hand, CompuServe can be a confusing and expensive place to be. Fortunately, there are several programs and utilities available to help make your time spent on CompuServe more enjoyable and efficient.

Take It Offline

The first rule of the successful CompuServe Information Service (CIS) user is that you must arm yourself with a navigator program. Accessing CIS in command line mode via a simple terminal program is the quickest way to lose your sanity and empty your wallet. CompuServe's own line of CompuServe Information Manager products, *WinCIM*, *DOSCIM*, *OS2-CIM* and *MacCIM*, is the best way to go for interactive browsing. Each of the CIM programs uses the proprietary Host-Micro Interface (HMI), which allows for limited multitasking, such as downloading files while reading messages in the same forum. HMI also gives you access to CompuServe's recently introduced enhanced menus. Each of the CIM programs costs $10, but you get the money back in the form of a connect-time credit. Go **cim** to download your copy.

Although the CIM products boast several enhancements and features over command line operation, the real power user knows that offline is the way to go. Using an offline, or autopilot navigator, you spend as little time connected as possible. Browsing files and composing mail and forum messages are done at your leisure while you're disconnected from the service. Once you've written your replies and selected files for downloading, the autopilot navigator moves as fast as possible through the service and performs the tasks for you. The cost savings are dramatic.

Offline Navigators for DOS Users There are many solid offline navigators available for almost any operating environment, and they vary in complexity and features. If you're still working exclusively with DOS, there are two excellent offline navigators that stand above the rest: *TAPCIS* and *OzCIS*. Both are shareware and are definitely worth a look.

TAPCIS, which has been around about as long as anyone on CompuServe can remember, is the king of CIS navigators. Over the years it has built up a sizable user base, and many of its more dedicated users support it with an almost religious fervor. From a more objective viewpoint, *TAPCIS* is a fairly solid offline navigator, and it boasts an abundant wealth of add-on utilities and enhancements. The major weakness of *TAPCIS* is a horrific user interface and a clumsy function-key driven menu system. The current version of *TAPCIS*, which costs $79, is available in the *TAPCIS* Support forum (go **tapcis**).

OzCIS features a number of improvements over *TAPCIS* and may be the strongest offline navigator for DOS users. It packs all of the features that *TAPCIS* has and adds more. The only major drawback to *OzCIS* is that it takes a while to learn. Luckily, the program comes armed with documentation. A Windows version was released earlier this year. Both versions of *OzCIS* are available as shareware and can be downloaded from the *OzCIS* Support forum (go **ozcis**). The cost of *OzCIS* ranges from $20–$60.

Options for Windows Users Windows users have some interesting options for offline navigation. Two powerful yet very different programs include *CompuServe Navigator (CSNav)* and *GoCIS*.

CSNav uses the same HMI protocol as its cousin, *WinCIM*, making connect time all the more efficient. *CSNav's* greatest strength is its hand-in-hand compatibility with *WinCIM*, allowing you to use the same folders and file cabinets for messages and files. *CSNav* is very affordable at $20, and you will receive a $10 usage credit when you purchase the software from CompuServe. A Macintosh version of *CSNav*, appropriately called *MacNav*, is also available. Both packages can be downloaded by typing go **navsoft**.

Another Windows offline navigator is *GoCIS* from PatriSoft. *GoCIS* isn't as easy to use as *CSNav*, but it does offer greater automation and personalization. It achieves this through use of a button bar that can be customized with a comprehensive script language. Many complex online tasks can be performed with the single click of a button. *GoCIS* is a $59 shareware program. The evaluation version is available in the Windows User Group forum (go **wugnet**) and can be found as **GOCIS.ZIP** in Library 12.

Shareware for OS/2 Users A shareware program known as *Golden CommPass* has enjoyed a long reign as the premier offline navigator for OS/2 users. It offers fully automated access to e-mail, forums, libraries and the CIS weather services. *Golden CommPass* is a native OS/2 application and takes advantage of OS/2's multitasking capabilities. A demo version is available in the *Golden CommPass* Support forum (go **gcpsup**) as **GCP21D.ZIP** in Library 1. The fully functional version of the program costs $79.

Extend Your Navigator

Of course, using an offline navigator is only one step toward enhancing your CompuServe sessions. There are a number of navigator plug-ins and stand-alone programs that can help you maximize the value of your time spent online.

EMail Assist If you're using *WinCIM*, you should download a copy of the shareware program, *EMail Assist for WinCIM*. There's also a version of the program for *CSNav for Windows* users. *EMail Assist* plugs into *WinCIM* to deliver three features that are missing: spell checking, easy quoting and taglines. Both editions of *Email Assist* are shareware and can be downloaded from the Windows Shareware forum (go **winshare**) as **EAWC.ZIP** and **EACSN.ZIP** in Library 3. Online registration costs $18.

Recon The best-known navigator add-on is *Recon*. This menu-driven CompuServe message handler simplifies the task of sorting through all of your e-mail and forum messages. It keeps track of which messages you've read and replied to. It has an enhanced sorting capability and intelligently keeps track of older messages, allowing you to easily delete or archive them to free up disk space. The current version works with *TAPCIS*, *OzCIS* and *Golden Compass*. *Recon* is available as shareware and can be registered for $38. Download the evaluation version from the *TAPCIS* Support forum (go **tapcis**) as **RECON.ZIP** in Library 2.

Voice EMail Another navigator add-on worthy of note is *Voice EMail for WinCIM*. This recent release plugs seamlessly into *WinCIM* and allows you to create voice e-mail messages. If you and your correspondents have sound cards and microphones, you can send digital messages via the CompuServe e-mail gateway. The program accomplishes this by sending compressed sound files as binary attachments to e-mail messages. *Voice EMail* also provides a handy sound file player. *Voice EMail* is a $49 shareware program. The evaluation version can be downloaded from the *WinCIM* Support forum (go **wcimsu**) as **VOICE.EXE** in Library 5.

CIS Billing Tracker Offline navigators are an essential part of the CompuServe power user's toolbox, but there are many other useful utilities for making your CompuServe sessions more efficient. One such utility is the *CIS Billing Tracker*. This simple DOS program organizes captured billing records for viewing and printing. The billing data must be captured manually by going online in terminal mode, but the program does the grunt work and provides an easy-to-read, cumulative report. It's a handy way to keep on top of your online spending habits. The $15 program can be downloaded on ZiffNet from the Public Brand Software Applications forum (go **znt:pbsapp**). The filename is **CISBIL.ZIP** and it is in Library 3.

You can locate hundreds of additional CompuServe add-ons, utilities and scripts by searching through the various forum file finders. Try searching on the keyword **cis** on either the PC File Finder (go **pcff**), the Macintosh File Finder (go **macff**) or the ZiffNet File Finder (go **znt:zntff**). **OA**

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Bringing your vision online

By Alan Bechtold

BBS Revolution

Powerful, point-and-click technology is changing the BBS world.

We're now on the verge of a major revolution in the BBS world And client/server technology, especially on the Microsoft Windows platform, will be bringing it about.

Macintosh BBS callers have long enjoyed the benefits of client/server technology. In addition, there are some interesting DOS-based BBS programs and protocols that now simulate this technology. However, I believe Windows-based client/servers will have greater impact than anything that has come before. Sheer numbers alone will carry this technology forward, attracting millions of IBM PC-compatible computer owners—most of whom will be coming online for the very first time over the next five years.

The Magic of Client/Server Technology

America Online is probably the best-known example of Windows-based client/server technology in the online industry. From its inception, one of this enterprising commercial online service's selling points has been its "point-and-click" simplicity, a direct result of client/server technology.

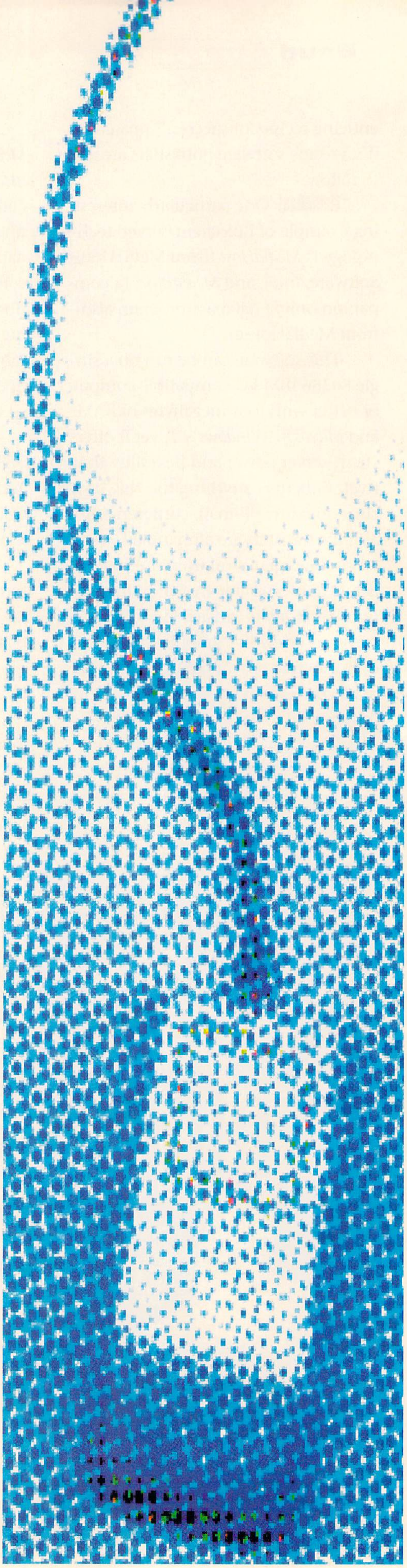
But, it's much more than just a pretty face. Client/server technology is also fast and powerful.

Online systems that utilize client/server technology can send their callers a special telecommunications program (the "client"), which dials and connects to the online service (the "server"). Once a connection is made, icons, menus—even entire message bases and file lists—are sent automatically from the server to the client. It's as if the server creates a localized miniature image of itself on *your* computer. This results in much faster operation. Graphics are typically very large files. But with client/server technology, once graphics are stored on your computer, the images and icons don't have to be retransmitted every time you call the server. Instead, they pop up like any other local graphics file.

Most client/server programs also offer bidirectional communications and multitasking. For example, on many client/server systems, you can download one file, upload another one and continue chatting in the server system's conference area—all at the same time. Most client/server systems also allow callers to read and reply to e-mail and search file lists offline, only connecting to the server to automatically pick up new mail and file lists, post e-mail replies and download or upload selected files.

A New Look and Feel for BBSs

This client/server technology is now available to BBS operators and callers. Local and regional BBS systems should experience unparalleled growth with client/server technology driving them. BBSs are usually available to callers at a low cost. The price, coupled with a specialized or local focus, creates an



enticing recipe for success. Apparently, it's a recipe software publishers are eager to follow.

MediaHost One particularly interesting example of BBS client/server technology is *MediaHost* (from MediaHouse Software, Inc.), and *MediaBase*, (a companion online database program also from MediaHouse).

This software can be run on a single 80386 IBM PC-compatible computer or better with four megabytes of RAM and *Microsoft Windows 3.1*, yet it offers client/server power and flexibility that rivals or betters anything the "big boys" currently offer. E-mail, conferencing and file transfers are all handled within a Windows graphical user interface that is fully customizable by the system operator. Callers can access CD-ROM drives, preview live graphic images online before downloading them and use a convenient word processor-style "clipboard" to write and read e-mail. Plus, they can do virtually all of these things simultaneously, if they wish.

But the addition of MediaHouse's *MediaBase* program really makes a *MediaHost* system come alive. This dBase-compatible program makes it easy to set up and maintain extensive online databases containing high-resolution color photographs. It's the perfect solution for online catalogs, product ordering, matchmaking, real estate listings, job databases or anything the system operator can imagine, all with amazing speed and ease of use.

Call any of the following *MediaHost* BBSs with your favorite terminal program and download their client program. Then install the client and use it to call back for a great online experience.

Online Resource in San Diego, California: 619-793-8360, modem

Go! Online in Richmond, Virginia: 804-965-9739, modem

The Amarillo Connection in Amarillo, Texas: 806-351-0528, modem

Fun Time BBS in Wantagh, New York: 516-796-2514, modem

For the basic two-line system, sysops pay $295. The *MediaBase* add-on costs $495. To contact MediaHouse, call 819-682-9737, voice, or write MediaHouse Software, Inc., P.O. Box 633, Aylmer, Quebec, Canada J9H 6L1, or 32 Eardley Road, Aylmer, Quebec, Canada J9H 7A3.

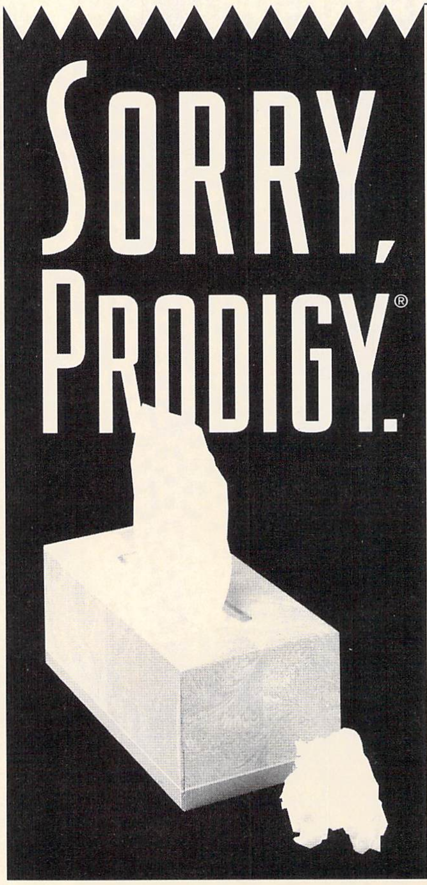
Excalibur *Excalibur* software, a new client/server Windows-based BBS package that's taken the online world by storm, is now installed on more than 1,000 systems—*before* the program has been officially released for sale! This program offers full point-and-click client/server features, including icons, high-resolution graphics, sound and animation. This power, along with an exceptionally low price of $99 for two lines, makes the package a popular choice among sysops. For more information, call Excalibur Communications, Inc., 800-EXCAL-BBS, voice, or 918-496-8113, modem.

PowerBBS *PowerBBS* has just been released as version 4.0, which includes a new client package. It offers loads of power and flexibility. *PowerBBS* also has the added advantage of stability. It has the distinction of being the first true Windows BBS program and has been running on numerous systems for several years now. The price for *PowerBBS 4.0* starts at $109 (one node). For more information, contact PowerBBS Computing, 35 Fox Ct., Hicksville, New York 11801; 516-938-0506, voice, or 516-822-7568, modem.

Other Programs to Watch for

The major BBS software publishers, not to be outdone, are also getting on the client/server bandwagon. Galacticomm, Inc. is about to release its new *WorldGroup* client/server BBS program, and Mustang Software is reportedly at work on a BBS product for *Windows 95*. I wouldn't be surprised to hear that every major BBS software publisher has something in the works for the Windows client/server market by the end of this year.

All told, we can expect to see a complete transformation of the BBS industry as we know it today. This change will make calling the boards more enjoyable and will attract millions of new callers who haven't yet discovered the online world today. **OA**



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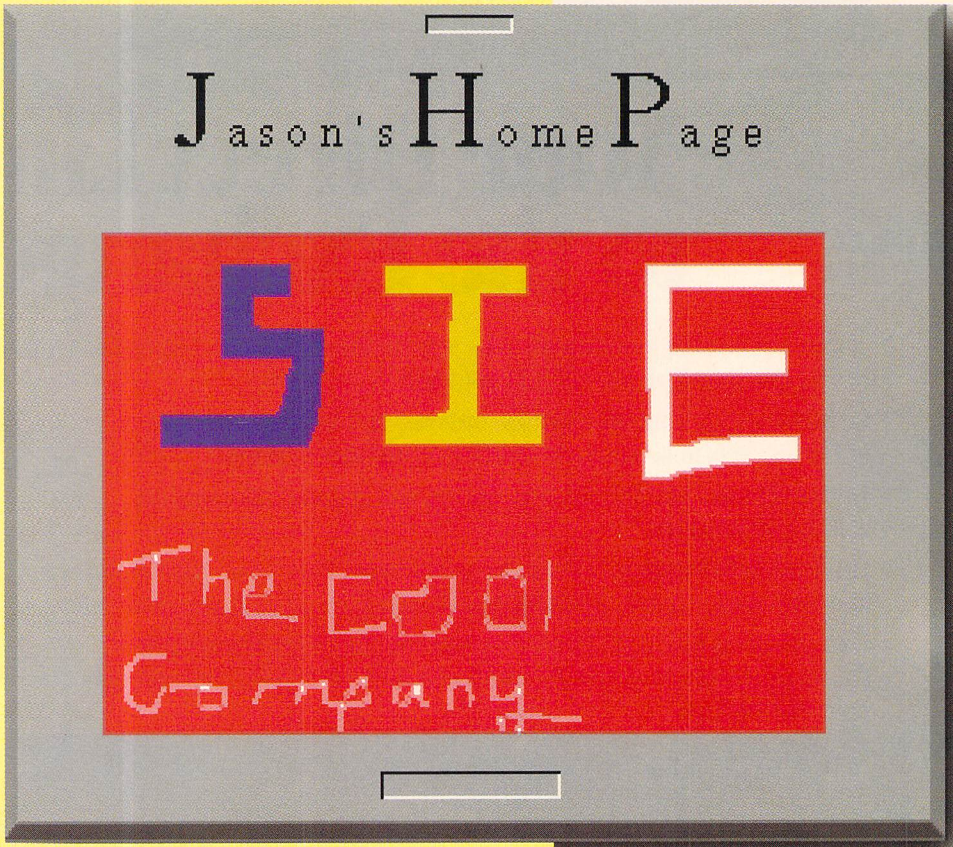
By Michael Strangelove and Jason Shouldice

The Internet Is for Kids

A techno-wise generation learns survival skills for a wired digital future.



This is a colorized version of Jason's home page.

"Hi. My name is Jason Shouldice and I am 12 years old. This story is about my encounters with the Internet. Of course we all do different things on the 'Net, so maybe it would be kind of neat to see what a kid my age does in cyberspace. Some people think that the Internet is just an adults' world, and it should be kept that way. I don't agree. It can be used by anyone with the proper knowledge of how to use it. If I can use it, anyone can.

"I first started using the Internet through the National Capital Freenet about a year ago at the Ottawa Public Library in Canada. The library has three public access terminals. When I first got my account I just looked around shyly at this new world in which I had found myself. There was a menu where you pressed numbers, and each number would take you to a different place. Now I log on frequently to all sorts of MUDs, which are fun, text-based games.

"Then I met a friend who launched me into cyberspace. Freenet is okay for the novice user, but it doesn't compare to all the advantages of a full Internet account. My friend allowed me to come over every weekend to use his computer and Internet account. I not only had access to his computer and the Internet, but I was able to utilize a SLIP connection. And he spent a lot of time showing me how to use gopher, ftp, telnet and the World Wide Web.

"Recently I made my own Web page (**http://www.phoenix.ca/sie/jason.html**). Right now I only have a recording of my voice and a game on it. In the future I am planning to have more games, research information and links to other Web pages.

"I mainly use the Internet for pleasure (which may be one of my sins). However, you will be pleased to know that on certain rare occasions when I need some information for a project at school, the Internet is where I usually look first.

"There is one thing that really annoys me. We have this wonderful thing called the Internet that has popped into our confused and constantly changing society. Yet not enough people are getting the opportunity to experience it. For instance, our school has the ability to access Freenet, but the teachers do not have enough experience to get online.

"I don't want to discredit the school because I understand that is not what they have in the curriculum. But maybe our schedules could be changed to set aside time to learn how to use the Internet."

The Internet as a Public Good

This is Jason's story, and it reflects the fundamental changes taking place around us. Jason was able to use the Internet because of public access terminals in a public library. He could access the most powerful knowledge tool available not because he had money, but because the community made an effort to transform the Internet into a public good. Here is the first lesson of this cyberspace tale: it belongs to each and every one of us, and our communities (not our governments) have a responsibility to ensure that access to the Internet is as universal as access to prime time television.

There are those who think that the Internet is destined to remain an elitist technology. Skeptics believe that cyberspace will merely reinforce the position of the "haves" and further disempower the "have nots." These are the myths I would believe if I did not share the experience of our children. Today a new, and surprisingly young, techno-wise generation is surfing the 'Net.

I was amazed to see how quickly Jason learned to use a Web browser (*Netscape*), a word processor (*Word 2.0*), an HTML editor (*HTML Assistant*), a sound card and related software. In creating his own Web page, this 12-year-old managed to learn to digitize a sound file, edit an HTML document, use ftp and learn a word processor. Yes, he needed help, but then so do I (rather constantly).

What I was witnessing was more than just a youthful zeal for learning. Jason's mother, Janice, said it best with this comment: "Jason was, without really knowing it, preparing for a very complex tomorrow when Internet-related skills will be the hunter-gatherer skills of the third millennium."

With every minute he spent on the 'Net, her son was preparing himself to better survive in a very competitive and complicated future. **OA**

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*Jason lives in Ottawa, Canada, and can be reached at **bi242@freenet.carleton.ca**. Michael Strangelove is author of **How to Advertise on the Internet**. He can be reached at **mstrange@ fonorola.net**.*

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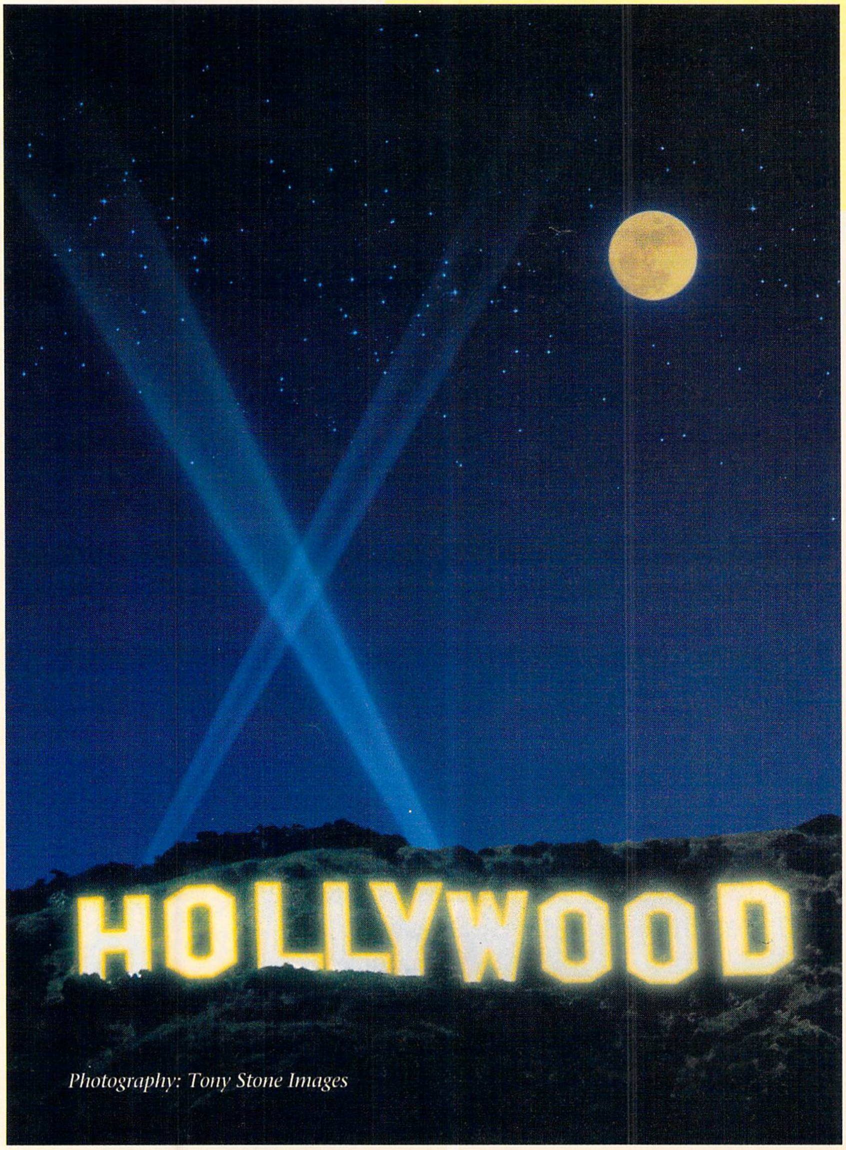
By Gary Robbins

There's No Business Like Show Business

Stay away from that theater popcorn, but get your fill of movie facts and trivia in cyberspace with the Internet Movie Database.



Photography: Tony Stone Images

Here's some movie trivia you might not have known: The seagulls that attacked Tippi Hedren in *The Birds* were tied to her clothing with nylon to prevent them from flying away. An actor stepped on Toto during the filming of *The Wizard of Oz*, requiring the use of a second dog. And producers thought about giving O.J. Simpson the title role in *The Terminator* but dropped the idea because they thought few would take him seriously.

I found these nuggets while rummaging through the Internet Movie Database, a massive interactive archive that's more engaging than most of the flicks that show up at your local cineplex.

You can get there by setting your World Wide Web navigator to **http://www.msstate.edu/ Movies/**. That will take you to a menu system where you can call up varying levels of information about more than 43,000 movies and more than 150,000 actors, actresses, directors and writers. There are plot summaries, cast lists, publicity photos, production notes, film locations and scads of trivia.

You can tap sound files that contain famous bits of movie dialogue and read what critics in the mainstream and alternative press had to say about specific films, including new releases. There's even information on films still in production. You can also join other filmgoers in rating movies. And you can help flesh out background information on your favorite films. In fact, you're strongly encouraged to do so because the database is an evolving international archive maintained entirely by users.

Getting Started

The main menu has about 10 features, including answers to frequently-asked-questions (FAQs). I usually advise people to begin with FAQs when they enter a large new Internet site for the first time. But that's not necessary. Novices can find their way around this neighborhood.

All you have to do to learn about a specific actor is click the gray search bar, enter his or her name in the formatted box and hit enter. Make sure to enter the person's last name first. Example: Newman, Paul. In most cases, you'll come away with the actor's bibliography and filmography. Many searches will yield publicity shots and other goodies.

You call up specific films in basically the same way. Be careful, though, when summoning film titles that begin with the word *the*. You put *the* at the end of the search string. Example: Enforcer, The. At a minimum, you'll get the cast list of whatever film you choose. You usually also get a chance to rate a film. And many films come with the production notes, soundtrack information, reviews, trivia and photos.

I suggest you set aside some playtime when you enter this database because you'll probably set off on a long, entertaining journey. Virtually all World Wide Web pages contain highlighted words and phrases that refer to related information. The information is so good you'll skip around cyberspace, trying to take it all in. That's exactly what happened to me when I sought an answer to a question I've long debated with a friend: Did singer Jimmy Buffett have a cameo role in the cult classic, *Repo Man*? I say yes. He says no.

I got an answer in seconds by using the search box, which displayed a list of Buffett's film credits. Sure enough, he was in *Repo Man* and *Rancho Deluxe*. I also seem to recall him being in *FM* as well. I can add that to his credits by filling out a simple electronic form. The creators of this database have wisely made it easy to expand the archives. After I checked Buffett's film credits, I clicked on a square containing a bold exclamation point. That's the icon for movie trivia. I learned that many of the perishable items in *Repo Man* featured generic labels such as "beer" and "food" because the producers couldn't persuade any companies to pay them for product placement, a common method of offsetting production costs. As I was doing this, I got to wondering if one of the film's stars, Harry Dean Stanton, is still alive. I selected his name from the cast list and got his film credits. Stanton is not only alive, he just finished a film with Robert DeNiro.

The database is an evolving international archive maintained entirely by users.

I also clicked on a box containing five yellow stars, the icon for movie criticism. Here you can rate a film on a sliding scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the best. More than 370 people had already voted, giving *Repo Man* an above average grade of 7.2. That's a fair assessment. But I found that some great films inexplicably had been given poor ratings. The groundbreaking comedy *Beach Blanket Bingo* received an average grade of 4.6. Go figure.

Total Recall

I also like the Internet Movie Database because you can find what you want even if you don't remember the name of the film or actor you're interested in. You do so by scrolling through subdirectories such as Genre, Quotes and Year of Release.

Let's say you want to read about the film in which Kevin Costner played a minor league baseball catcher, but you can't recall the name of the movie. Click on Genre and you'll find an area devoted to baseball films. And in there you'll find the title *Bull Durham*. At which point you'll slap your forehead and say, "How could I have forgotten that?"

I should note that such searches won't always be successful because the depth of information varies greatly throughout the database. I clicked on the Newspaper category under Genre and came away with only three film titles. There are dozens of newspaper films, including such gems as *His Girl Friday* and *Between the Lines*, that weren't on the list I received. You'll run into a similar problem when you look for information on certain actors and films. For example, I found more bibliographic information on the adult film actress Seka than I did on Elizabeth Taylor. And the only thing I found when I called up *Damn Yankees* was the cast list. The film *Run Silent, Run Deep* wasn't even listed. I can forgive such omissions because the database is being assembled by volunteers, not full-time librarians. And these oversights are likely to be corrected. There are roughly 10,000 new entries made in the database each week. The archive's shortcomings also are offset by such wonderful features as the Academy Awards database, which includes a long Oscars quiz and an interactive press kit for each year's Academy Awards ceremony.

You'll also want to click on the word Alternative, which is highlighted near the top of the main menu. This leads you to a Web version of the Usenet newsgroup **rec.arts.movies.reviews**. You'll also find a searchable database that lets you call up reviews on thousands of movies. And there's a bulletin board where you can discuss everything from Hitchcock's camera work in *Vertigo* to the now-famous diarrhea scene in *Dumb and Dumber*.

Now that's entertainment. **OA**

Launch Pad

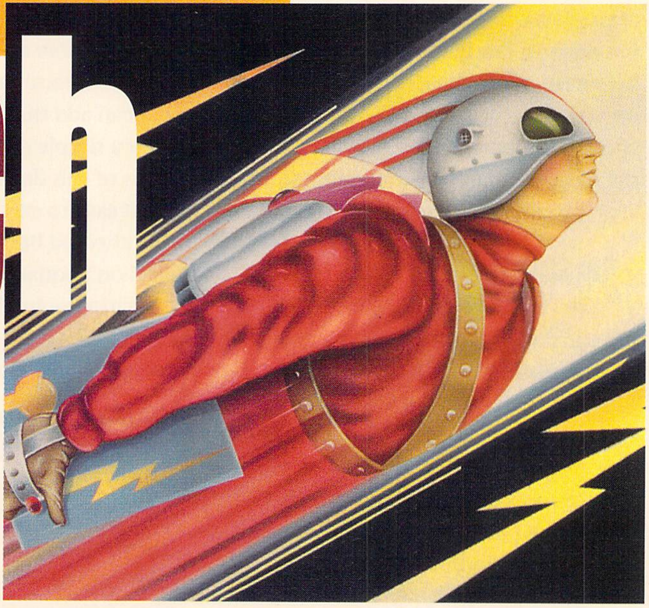


Illustration: Dan McGowan © /SIS Stock Illustration

How To Electronic Mail

By Carol Freer

In the 19th century, Pony Express riders braved the elements to deliver mail. Now compose an electronic message on your computer, and within seconds it's reached its destination. E-mail is no horse-and-pony show; learn how to use this valuable service.

Every online service offers the popular electronic mail (e-mail) feature, allowing you to send and receive e-mail messages. In addition to sending a letter to another online user, you can use e-mail to transfer an electronic file from your hard drive.

Your online service acts as an electronic post office to send e-mail messages to you through your e-mail address. When you type a letter, you also type in the recipient's e-mail address, which is used to deliver the message.

America Online and CompuServe allow you to read and write e-mail offline, at your leisure. You only need to connect with the service long enough to transfer messages. We suggest using offline e-mail whenever possible to save money.

The process of sending e-mail varies from service to service. Here we will walk you through the steps necessary to send and receive a message using America Online, CompuServe and Prodigy.

E-Mail on AMERICA ONLINE

Sending

1. Access America Online by clicking on the icon, but do not log on to the service.

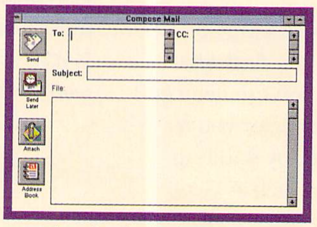
2. Choose Mail from the pull-down menu at the top of the screen and click on Compose Mail.

3. Enter the address in the To box and the message subject in the Subject box and type your message. (The form must be filled out completely before AOL will deliver.)

4. To deliver your message, hit the Send Later button.

5. When you are ready to send the mail, choose FlashSessions from the Mail pull-down menu, then click on Activate Session Now. (note: A FlashSession allows you to automatically connect with the service, send mail, receive mail and disconnect in one step. The first time you access a FlashSession, you will be taken through a simple configuration process. For a tutorial, click on Walk Me Through from the FlashSessions box.)

6. You may also send a file with your message if the recipient is an AOL member. Before sending your message, click on Attachments and enter the file name. Hit OK when finished, then send as usual.



America Online's Compose Mail window

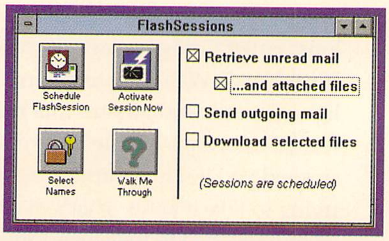
Receiving

1. Access America Online by clicking on the icon, but do not log on to the service.

2. Choose FlashSessions from the Mail pull-down button.

3. Click on the boxes labeled Retrieve Unread Mail . . . and Attached Files, then hit OK.

4. Click on Activate Session Now.



☒ Retrieve unread mail

☒ ...and attached files

☐ Send outgoing mail

☐ Download selected files

(Sessions are scheduled)

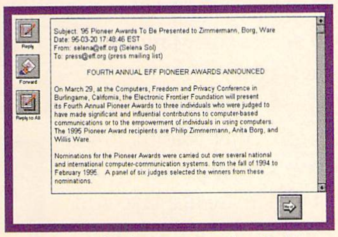
AOL's FlashSessions box

5. When the FlashSession is finished, all new mail will be placed in the Incoming FlashMail box. Access it by choosing Read Incoming Mail from the Mail pull-down menu at the top of the screen. A list of your waiting e-mail messages will appear.

6. Highlight a message, then select the Read button from the lower left corner to read the message.

7. Once you have read the message, choose Reply to respond to it, or Forward to send the message to another user. Choose the Next button to read the next message; or select Previous to move backward in the message que.

8. Close the current message window to return to the New Mail box to read another message.



Subject: '95 Pioneer Awards To Be Presented to Zimmermann, Borg, Ware
Date: 95-03-20 17:48:46 EST
From: selena@eff.org (Selena Sol)
To: press@eff.org (press mailing list)

FOURTH ANNUAL EFF PIONEER AWARDS ANNOUNCED

On March 29, at the Computers, Freedom and Privacy Conference in Burlingame, California, the Electronic Frontier Foundation will present its Fourth Annual Pioneer Awards to three individuals who were judged to have made significant and influential contributions to computer-based communications or to the empowerment of individuals in using computers. The 1995 Pioneer Award recipients are Philip Zimmermann, Anita Borg, and Willis Ware.

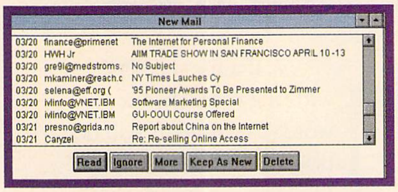
Nominations for the Pioneer Awards were carried out over several national and international computer-communication systems. from the fall of 1994 to February 1995. A panel of six judges selected the winners from these nominations.

Message display on America Online

Retrieving a File

1. Files sent from one AOL member to another member by e-mail are routed to your New Mail box, just as a message would be. To access a file, highlight it and click on Read.

2. The message Window will advise you of the file name and size. You can then specify where you want the file to be stored on your hard drive and retrieve it offline later.



```
03/20  finance@primenet     The Internet for Personal Finance
03/20  HWH Jr               AIIM TRADE SHOW IN SAN FRANCISCO APRIL 10 -13
03/20  gre9i@medstroms.     No Subject
03/20  mkaminer@reach.c     NY Times Lauches Cy
03/20  selena@eff.org (     '95 Pioneer Awards To Be Presented to Zimmer
03/20  ivlinfo@VNET.IBM     Software Marketing Special
03/20  ivlinfo@VNET.IBM     GUI-OOUI Course Offered
03/21  presno@grida.no      Report about China on the Internet
03/21  Caryzel              Re: Re-selling Online Access
```

America Online's New Mail box

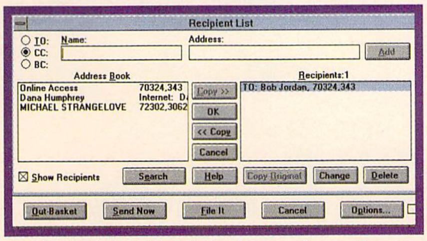
E-Mail on COMPUSERVE

Sending

1. Access CompuServe by clicking on the icon, but do not log on to the service.

2. Pull down the Mail menu from the top of the screen and choose Create Mail.

3. In the Recipient List dialog box, fill in the name and address boxes, and click OK.



○ TO: ● CC: ○ BC:
Name:
Address:

Address Book

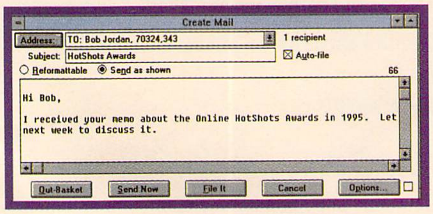
```
Online Access          70324,343
Dana Humphrey          Internet: D
MICHAEL STRANGELOVE    72302,3062
```

Recipients:1
TO: Bob Jordan, 70324,343

☒ Show Recipients

The Recipient List dialog box on CompuServe

4. In the Create Mail box, fill in the subject box, then type your message.



Address: TO: Bob Jordan, 70324,343
1 recipient
Subject: HotShots Awards
☒ Auto-file
○ Reformattable ● Send as shown
66

```
Hi Bob,

I received your memo about the Online HotShots Awards in 1995.  Let
next week to discuss it.
```

CompuServe's Create Mail box

5. When finished, click Out Basket to store the message on your hard drive and send later.

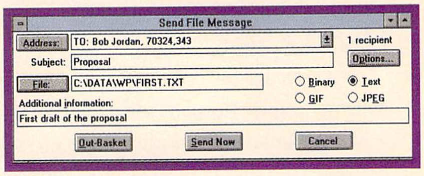
6. When you are ready to send all of your messages, click on the Out Basket icon from the main menu, or pull down the Mail menu from the top of the screen and choose Out Basket.

7. Choose open to access any stored message. Send individual messages by clicking on Send, or send all messages by hitting Send All.

Sending Files

1. From the main menu, pull down the Mail menu and choose Send File.

2. In the Recipient List dialog box, fill in the name and address boxes, then click OK.



Address: TO: Bob Jordan, 70324,343
1 recipient
Subject: Proposal
File: C:\DATA\WP\FIRST.TXT
○ Binary ● Text
○ GIF ○ JPEG
Additional information:
First draft of the proposal

The Send File Message box on CompuServe

3. In the Send File Message box, enter the subject and file information. It is very important for you to define the type of file you are sending: click on binary for a formatted file such as a WordPerfect document, text for an ASCII or unformatted file, or GIF for a graphics file.

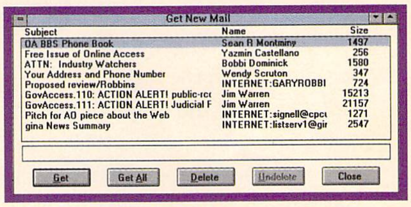
4. Click on Out Basket to store the file.

5. Follow Sending steps numbers 6 and 7 (under Sending) to send the file from the Out Basket.

Receiving

1. Access CompuServe by clicking on the icon, but do not log on to the service.

2. Choose Get New Mail from the Mail menu. This automatically logs you onto CompuServe and immediately retrieves your mail.



```
Subject                                 Name                   Size
OA BBS Phone Book                       Sean R Montminy        1497
Free Issue of Online Access             Yazmin Castellano       256
ATTN:  Industry Watchers                Bobbi Dominick         1580
Your Address and Phone Number           Wendy Scruton           347
Proposed review/Robbins                 INTERNET:GARYROBBI      724
GovAccess.110: ACTION ALERT! public-rc  Jim Warren            15213
GovAccess.111: ACTION ALERT! Judicial F Jim Warren            21157
Pitch for AO piece about the Web        INTERNET:signell@cpcu  1271
gina News Summary                       INTERNET:listserv1@gir 2547
```

Compuserve's Get New Mail window

3. When the New Mail dialog box appears, click on Get All.

4. Once all of your messages have been retrieved, disconnect from the service.

5. Choose In Basket from the Mail pull-down menu.

Sending E-mail From Your Service to Another Service

You can send e-mail from your online service to a user on another online service via the Internet. It sounds scarier and more complicated than it really is. Simply use this formula: **user.name@service.com**. The entire address is lowercase. Periods replace commas and spaces within the user name. For example, Joe Smith is user **12345,6789** on Compuserve and **joe_smith** on America Online. From Prodigy, you send a message to him at **12345.6789@compuserve.com** or on America Online to **joe_smith@aol.com**.

6. Highlight an individual message in the dialog box, then click Open to read it.

7. After you have read the message, you have many options. From here, click on Next to read the following message. You also have the options to File It, Reply, Forward, Delete and Cancel.

E-Mail on PRODIGY

If you are just getting your feet wet on Prodigy, use the following directions to send and receive e-mail while online.

Prodigy does not allow users to send/receive mail or files offline. Two software packages, *Prodigy Mail Manager* or *E-mail Connection*, can be used with Prodigy's software to perform these tasks. Contact Prodigy Customer Support at 800-PRODIGY, voice, for more information.

Sending

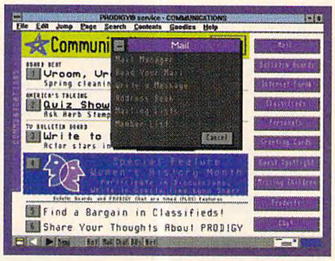
1. Log on to Prodigy.

2. Access Prodigy's Mail menu by choosing Communications from the main menu, then Mail. Or jump to **mail**.

3. Click on Write a Message.

4. In the Write a Message Box, fill in the name and address of the recipient and then compose your letter. (NOTE: Use the Internet ID Box to enter Internet addresses that are more than 40 characters. If your letter is longer than one page, hit the arrow key in the lower left corner to continue your letter.)

5. Click on Send to deliver the message. A status line on the bottom of the screen will tell you that the message was sent.


PRODIGY® service - COMMUNICATIONS
File Edit Jump Page Search Contents Goodies Help
Communi
Mail
Mail Manager
Read Your Mail
Write a Message
Address Book
Mailing Lists
Member List
Cancel
Find a Bargain in Classifieds!
Share Your Thoughts About PRODIGY

Prodigy's Mail menu

Receiving

1. Log on to Prodigy.

2. Access Prodigy's Mail menu by choosing Communications from the main menu, then Mail. Or jump to **mail**.

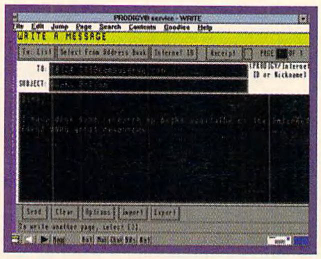
3. Choose Read Your Mail from the Mail menu to access the Mailbox, which lists all of your incoming messages.

4. Double-click on an individual message to read it.

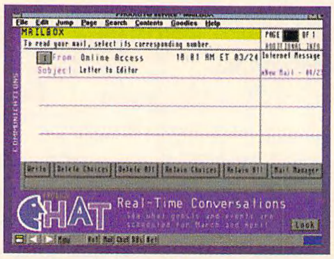
5. After reading it, you have several options—all of which are displayed on the bottom of the screen. To read more messages, you may choose Next to move forward in the Mailbox que or Previous to move backward.

6. Hit Retain to save the message in the Mailbox. In addition, you may also Forward, Reply to and Delete messages.

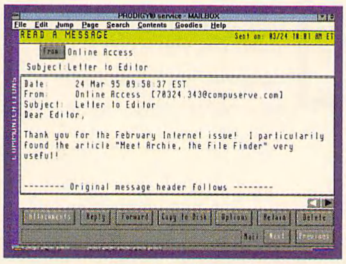
7. If a file was sent with the message, the word Attachments will be black. To download the file, click on attachments and enter the directory where the file should be placed on your hard drive.


PRODIGY® service - WRITE
File Edit Jump Page Search Contents Goodies Help
WRITE A MESSAGE
To: List
Select From Address Book
Internet ID
Receipt
TO:
SUBJECT:
Send
Clear
Options
Import
Export

The Write-a-Message window on Prodigy


File Edit Jump Page Search Contents Goodies Help
MAILBOX
To read your mail, select its corresponding number.
From: Online Access 10:01 AM ET 03/24
Subject Letter to Editor
Write
Delete Choices
Delete All
Retain Choices
Retain All
Mail Manager
CHAT Real-Time Conversations
Look

Prodigy's Mailbox window


PRODIGY® service - MAILBOX
File Edit Jump Page Search Contents Goodies Help
READ A MESSAGE
Sent on: 03/24 10:01 AM ET
From: Online Access
Subject: Letter to Editor
Attachments
Reply
Forward
Copy to Disk
Options
Retain
Delete

```
Date:     24 Mar 95 09:58:37 EST
From:     Online Access [70324.343@compuserve.com]
Subject:  Letter to Editor
Dear Editor,

Thank you for the February Internet issue!  I particularily
found the article "Meet Archie, the File Finder" very
useful!

-------- Original message header follows --------
```

Prodigy's Read-a-Message window

Helpful E-mail Hints

- When you send files through e-mail you need to know if the file is text or binary. A text file is much easier to transfer online because it contains only characters and no formatting information. A binary file is formatted for a particular software program, such as WordPerfect. Some services will not allow users to receive binary files.
- Always sign your name to e-mail messages so the recipient can identify you. This is important because, although your e-mail address is automatically inserted into the beginning of a message when sent, your e-mail address may not contain your name. (ex. Joe Smith is **12345,6789** on CompuServe)
- On CompuServe, if you are sending the message to an Internet address, type **Internet:** before the address in the address box.
- Don't type an e-mail message with all capital letters unless you are angry. All capitalization means that you are shouting.
- To give your e-mail message more expression, use a smiley. A smiley is a happy face :-) created with a combination of punctuation marks, letters and numbers. Turn your head 90 degrees to the left to read these smileys : ') (wink) :o (surprised) 8-O (even more surprised). **OA**

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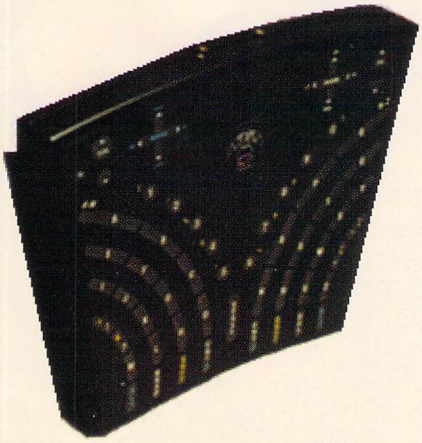

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- Simple to use

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The Great Web Rush of

'95 Prodigy Takes an Early Lead

By Dana Humphrey and Carol Freer

With Internet front-ends and stand-alone browsers being introduced and hundreds of new Web sites popping up every day, this year may go down in history as the Web Rush of '95.

The Web's popularity is growing at staggering rates. It's estimated that more than two million people currently tap into the Web. By the year 2000, some 21.8 million will have access to it, according to Forrester Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Web sites are being set up by just about everybody, businesses and individuals alike, including Zima, AT&T and CBS as well as your average Joe Schmo. Because of its enormous popularity, access to this giant graphical gateway to the Internet known as the World Wide Web is now being offered by a growing number of software companies.

Prodigy: The Online Pioneer

When Prodigy became the first major online service to launch a Web browser in January 1995, hundreds of thousands of consumers struck gold. Approximately 375,000 Prodigy users downloaded the Web browser software in only three months. (Other popular browsers boast only one-third as many users.) And by spring 1995, Prodigy officials expect as many as 500,000 to 775,000 people will have accessed the Web via its service.

The online service has done its best to make browsing as easy as possible for its users. Members are free from SLIP and PPP worries and have access to tutorials, simulation searches and even an Internet BB populated by Web experts.

Without a doubt, companies with Web sites are also reaping the benefits of Prodigy's new Web browser. E-Span, an interactive employment network, has a Web site that can be accessed with a single click from Prodigy's home page through a hypertext link. E-Span boasts thousands of accesses every day from Prodigy's Web service.

Riding the wave of the Web's popularity, Prodigy plans to increasingly integrate the browser into its service, allowing members to launch it from almost anywhere, according to Prodigy's Bill Day, director of Internet development, and Steve Larsen, manager of communications. For example, if you're reading a news story online about the baseball strike and want additional information, you can hit a related button to be taken to a Web site dedicated to comprehensive strike information—without first navigating to the Internet.

Prodigy is also incorporating the Web into its marketing plan with an emphasis on performance. A few enhancements planned for the near future include additional Web content, a Web browser for Mac users, multitasking capabilities and more efficient image handling.

If you haven't already done so, explore the Web with Prodigy's new browser. To download the software from Prodigy's main menu, jump **web** and click to Browse the World Wide Web. Then follow the easy step-by-step downloading instructions. For tips on using Prodigy's Web browser, see page 49.

How about the other two major online services?

America Online expected to have its Web browser available for users by April 1995, while CompuServe currently provides full PPP Internet connections via its service. CompuServe members can use any TCP/IP nonproprietary browser software. Another option available to CompuServe members (as of mid-April 1995) is to download Spry's Mosaic Web browser, which offers one-button install capability.

What is the best Web browser out there?

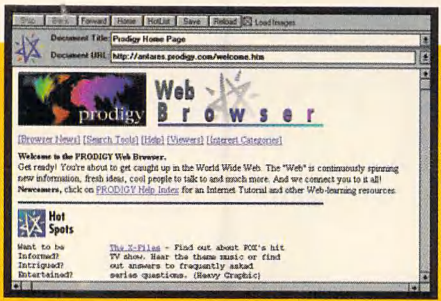
ONLINE ACCESS reviewed eight software packages* that provide access to the Web. Surprisingly, many of these Web browsers' standard features are now pretty sophisticated. For instance, you'll find split screens, security devices, placeholders or bookmarks and hotlists. Some services even let you create your own home page and customize your screens.

Another plus to these Web browsers is that they are fairly affordable. In fact, one Web browser we reviewed, *Cello*, is absolutely free!

The following software review includes brief descriptions of the Web browser, along with system requirements, costs, advantages and disadvantages of each.

**For reviews of other Internet software packages, see pages 53–59 of our February 1995 issue.*

Illustration: Hank Osuna



Document Title: Prodigy Home Page
Document URL: http://antares.prodigy.com/welcome.htm

[Browser News] [Search Tools] [Help] [Viewers] [Interest Categories]

Welcome to the PRODIGY Web Browser.
Get ready! You're about to get caught up in the World Wide Web. The "Web" is continuously spinning new information, fresh ideas, cool people to talk to and much more. And we connect you to it all!
Newcomers, click on PRODIGY Help Index for an Internet Tutorial and other Web-learning resources.

Want to be Informed? Intrigued? Entertained?

The X-Files - Find out about FOX's hit TV show. Hear the theme music or find out answers to frequently asked series questions. (Heavy Graphic)

Prodigy's Web Browser

Prodigy Services Company
445 Hamilton Ave.
White Plains, NY 10601
voice: 800-PRODIGY

Description: Prodigy is the first major consumer online service to introduce a Web browser to its users.

Other Internet features: e-mail, Usenet newsgroups

System requirements: *Windows 3.0* or *3.1*; *DOS 3.1*; 386 or higher computer; 4 MB RAM; 3.5 MB hard disk space; 9600 bps or higher modem; a mouse

Cost: $9.95 per month with five free hours. Each additional hour is $2.95.

Pluses

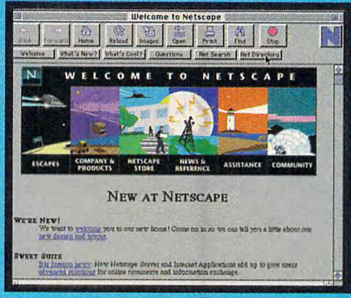
- Prodigy's Web browser is extremely easy to install; no configuration is necessary. Prodigy provides technical support and a wide array of online help functions.
- This well-organized browser has many convenient features such as a stop button, graphics toggle, back key, bookmark, etc.
- Both the names and addresses of sites you've visited are posted in boxes so you can easily trace where you've been and return to a previous site.
- You can create your own hotlists.

Minuses

- The system is slow. Clicking on the Load Images option will disable graphics and allow only the text from documents to download. Although this saves time, it sacrifices interesting and informative graphics.
- As new upgrades of the browser are released, the service automatically updates your software online when you access the Web. Unfortunately, the process takes about five minutes.
- The stop button occasionally malfunctions.

Overall evaluation

Prodigy offers a stable product to its masses; its navigator is easy to use and rivals others on the market. Unfortunately, the service is lagging when it comes to connection speeds. Although 14,400 bps is offered in some areas, 9600 is the highest bps speed available in most places. This speed is far too slow for downloading graphic-intensive content found on the Web.



NEW AT NETSCAPE

WE'RE NEW!
We want to welcome you to our new home! Come on in so we can tell you a little about our new design and layout.

SWEET SUITE

Netscape Navigator 1.0 for Macintosh

Description: *Netscape Navigator* is a shareware program for Macintosh users browsing the Web.

Other Internet features: ftp, Usenet newsgroups, e-mail

System requirements: Macintosh computer with a 68030 processor; 4 MB RAM; System 7; SLIP or PPP connection; *MacTCP* software

Cost: *Netscape* is free on the Internet but program registration costs $39 and entitles users to technical support. User documentation can be purchased for $20.

Netscape Communications Corp.
501 E. Middlefield Road
Mountain View, CA 94043
voice: 415-528-2555
WWW: **http://home.mcom.com**
ftp: **ftp.netscape.com/netscape**
e-mail: **info@netscape.com**

Pluses

- Netscape loads text before graphics so you can read text while waiting for graphics to come up.
- Screens can be customized to the user's preference. For instance, status bars and tool boxes toggle on or off. Also, both the font and screen color can be adjusted.
- Like The Transom's version of this shareware, Netscape for Macintosh offers security features such as data encryption of Web documents to ensure users' privacy. An icon in the bottom left corner indicates whether or not you're in a secure server site.

Minuses

- Netscape cannot open up more than one Web page at a time.

Overall evaluation

Netscape 1.0 for Macintosh is a powerful browser with strong features. Like *Netscape for Windows* and *Internet Works*, it is a top-of-the-line Web browser. Images and text load very quickly. Many convenient features are preloaded, including links to 'Net directories as well as customized screen options.

Your on-ramp to the information superhighway
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OS/2
New!
BonusPak
OS/2 Warp

IBM OS/2 Warp WebExplorer 1.0

voice: 800-3IBMOS2 or 800-342-6672
e-mail: **teamos2@vnet.ibm.com**
WWW: **http://www.austin.ibm.com/pspinfo**

Description: The *WebExplorer 1.0* is a Web browser specifically for *OS/2 Warp* users. The Web software must be downloaded from *OS/2 Warp*'s BonusPak, which features other Internet tools and online capabilities. If you have *OS/2 Warp with Win-OS/2*, just click on the Web browser icon that appears on screen to access the Web.

Other Internet features: gopher, ftp, e-mail, telnet, ping, person-to-person (workgroup conferencing over the Internet) and Usenet newsgroups

System requirements: *OS/2 Warp*; 386 or higher computer; 9600 bps modem or higher; 4 MB RAM (8 MB recommended); a mouse; VGA graphics recommended

Cost: The cost for *OS/2 Warp* is $79 and includes the BonusPak at no extra charge. The one-time registration fee for using IBM's Global Network service provider is $27.50; all users receive three free hours of access. Two payment plans are available: $12.95 for up to six hours a month (each additional hour is $3) or $29.95 for up to 30 hours per month (each additional hour is $2). Tack on a $6-per-hour surcharge if you're using the toll free 800 number.

Pluses

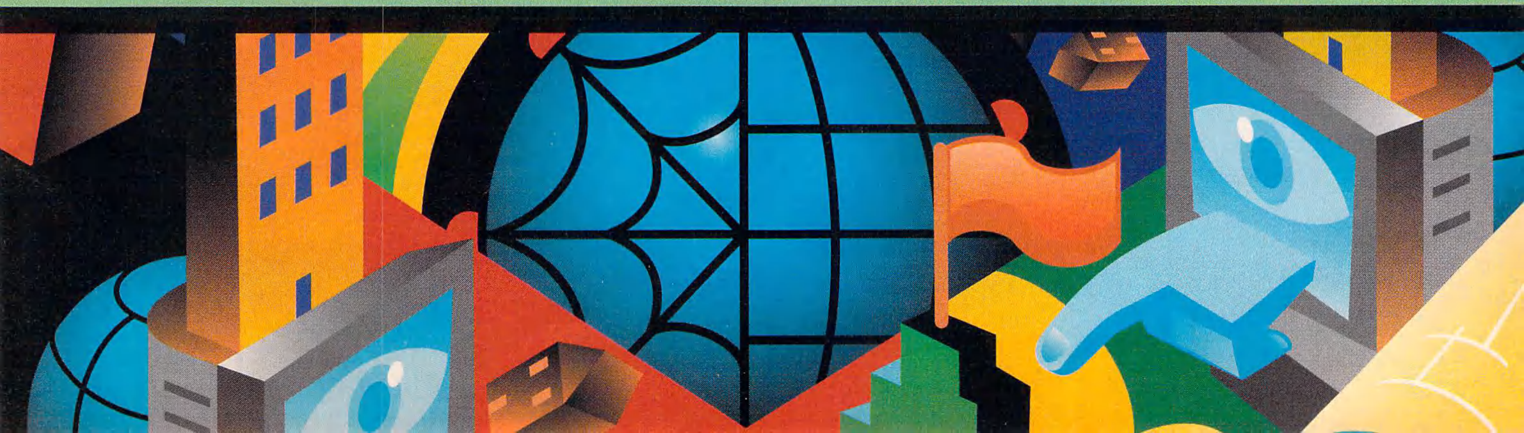
- Users can view and interact with one Web page document while loading others or performing other tasks (such as an ftp search) in the background.
- The *WebExplorer* allows you to view a document as it comes in from the network rather than waiting for the full page—including slower-moving images—to appear on screen.
- Users can drag an image from a Web page and drop it into an e-mail message, a file folder or onto the desktop for later use.
- The WebMap, a history tool used to track your path on the Web, gives you a full, hierarchical outline of where you've been. For example, if you access a new document through a Web page's hypertext links, the new document will be listed below the original page on the WebMap.
- If you don't know where to go on the Web, the *WebExplorer* gives you various suggestions through hotlists. The hotlists are conveniently arranged by subject. (You can also create your own lists). Plus, IBM's browser points you to some robust WWW search tools.

Minuses

- IBM offers handy hypertext links and pointers, but the service needs to update some sites. For example, clicking on the News of the Day in Haiku hypertext link indicates that the page is not available.
- Although it's easy, downloading the Web software from *OS/2 Warp*'s BonusPack takes up to 10 minutes.

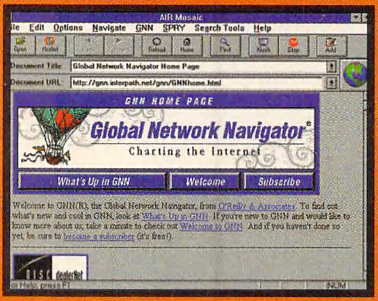
Overall evaluation

IBM has given *OS/2 Warp* users a powerful Web browser tool, which is good, because it's the only *Warp* browser out there at the moment. Even Internet veterans will be impressed by the browser's robust multitasking capabilities and its ability to expedite the downloading process by retrieving documents and images simultaneously. But with easy point-and-click navigation and lots of hotlists, inexperienced 'Netters will also feel comfortable using the *WebExplorer*.



Internet In A Box AIR Mosaic

SPRY, Inc.
316 Occidental Ave. S.
Seattle, WA 98104
voice: 800-557-9614
e-mail: **iboxtech@spry.com**


AIR Mosaic
File Edit Options Navigate GNN SPRY Search Tools Help
Open Hotlist Back Forward Reload Home Find Mail Stop Add
Document Title: Global Network Navigator Home Page
Document URL: http://gnn.interpath.net/gnn/GNNhome.html
GNN HOME PAGE
Global Network Navigator®
Charting the Internet
What's Up in GNN
Welcome
Subscribe
DISC dealerNet
For Help, press F1
NUM

Welcome to GNN(R), the Global Network Navigator, from O'Reilly & Associates. To find out what's new and cool in GNN, look at What's Up in GNN. If you're new to GNN and would like to know more about us, take a minute to check out Welcome to GNN. And if you haven't done so yet, be sure to become a subscriber (it's free!).

Description: SPRY's full-featured Internet software front-end, Internet In A Box, includes the browser software *AIR Mosaic*. (*AIR Mosaic* can also be purchased as a stand-alone product, Mosaic In A Box. For more information, call 800-777-9638, voice.)

Other Internet features: gopher, e-mail, newsgroups, telnet and ftp

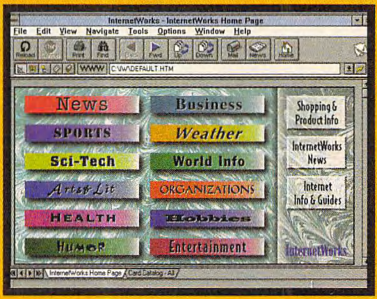
System requirements: 386 or higher computer; 4 MB RAM; *MS-DOS 3.0* or upgrade; *Windows 3.1* or upgrade; 9600 bps modem

Cost: Suggested retail price for Internet In A Box is $149. If you choose to use SprintLink, the Internet provider that Internet In A Box offers to users for automatic registration, the cost is $8.95 an hour for the 800-number online charge. However, users can also choose their own Internet service.

Pluses

- *AIR Mosaic* will search a Web page document for the specific information you need. Simply click on the Find button and enter a search word or phrase.
- Send an e-mail message without interrupting your *AIR Mosaic* session. This feature is especially useful when you want to send the text of a document that *AIR Mosaic* is currently displaying.
- You can import hotlists and menus and use them while browsing with *AIR Mosaic*.
- The Internet In A Box package includes a special edition of Ed Krol's *The Whole Internet User's Guide*, which is customized for Internet In A Box users. A chapter dedicated to *AIR Mosaic* provides extensive and helpful information about this browser tool.

Internet Works


InternetWorks - InternetWorks Home Page
File Edit View Navigate Tools Options Window Help
Reload Print Find Fwd Up Down Mail News Home
WWW C:\IW\DEFAULT.HTM
News
Business
SPORTS
Weather
Sci-Tech
World Info
Arts & Lit
ORGANIZATIONS
HEALTH
Hobbies
Humor
Entertainment
Shopping & Product Info
InternetWorks News
Internet Info & Guides
InternetWorks
InternetWorks Home Page
Card Catalog - All

Description: *Internet Works*, a Windows-based Internet viewer and browser, is a product of NaviSoft, Inc., a subsidiary of America Online.

Other Internet features: gopher, ftp, e-mail, telnet, Usenet newsgroups and WAIS

System requirements: *Windows 3.1*, *Windows for Workgroups 3.11*, or *Windows NT 3.x*; 386 or higher computer; 2400 bps or higher modem; 4 MB RAM (8 MB recommended); 5 MB free disk space; VGA monitor; Windows socket software; SLIP or PPP connection

Cost: Suggested retail price is $49.95.

Pluses

- Multitasking and multidocument downloads are achieved through a split-screen function, which creates divisions in your screen for multiple sessions.
- *Internet Works* uses a persistent graphics system that transfers text first, then graphics, so you can read text while the graphics load.
- Web sessions can be automated and/or transferred into different software programs such as *Microsoft Word for Windows*, *Excel* and *Access* through a feature called Object Linking and Embedding (OLE).
- The card catalog keeps a history of links that retain graphics so you don't waste time when returning to a site to reload documents. The URL address box also keeps a hierarchical history list of what sites you've been to.
- The program is fast!

Minuses

- You can't conclude your Internet session from *AIR Mosaic*. You must close up the *AIR Mosaic* window and then end the session by clicking on the Dialer to hang up.
- Expect a long wait for customer service/technical support. (The phone number isn't toll free, either.)
- The default links and hotlists are slanted toward SPRY information and O'Reilly's Global Network Navigator online resource. (SPRY produces Internet In A Box; O'Reilly is the publisher of the special edition of *The Whole Internet User's Guide*.) However, you can customize *AIR Mosaic* so the home page of your choice appears.

Overall evaluation

AIR Mosaic offers Windows users a refined tool for navigating the Web. Users probably won't run into problems if they decide to go with this browser. SPRY now gives you the option to take the Web and *AIR Mosaic*—and leave the rest of the Internet tools behind.

Minuses

- The status of a connection is shown within the terminal screen, but it is inconsistent. At times, the screen goes blank while connecting and you're left wondering what to do.
- When you use the split-screen option, the history list and status bars become a jumbled mess. If you want to use this option, you need your own road map. Also expect slower connection and transfer speeds.

Overall evaluation

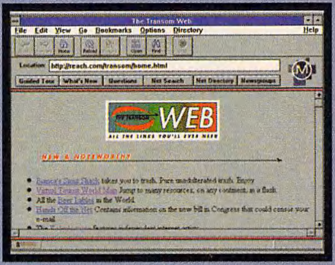
Internet Works is an impressive program with features for both Web newbies and experienced Web surfers. The home page is loaded with preprogrammed Web links that are accessible by subject categories. The history log is arranged in an easy, card-catalog style and bookmarks are organized in the same fashion. You can also print any document that is loaded onto the screen—a simple but useful feature.

NaviSoft, Inc.
75 Second Ave.
Suite 710
Needham, MA 02194
voice: 617-433-0464 or 800-453-surf
fax: 617-433-0595
ftp: **ftp.booklink.com/beta**

The Transom

The Transom
Reach Media
588 Broadway
New York, NY 10012
voice: 212-274-0444 or 800-475-9689
e-mail: **transom@reach.com**

Netscape Navigator 1.1 for Windows



Location: http://reach.com/transom/home.html

Description: The Transom, an online service, offers its users Web access through a beta version of *Netscape 1.1*. (It plans to release an updated final version in the near future.) *Netscape 1.1* is a shareware program that is compatible with any network running TCP/IP.

System requirements: 386 or higher computer; at least 4 MB RAM; *Windows 3.1* or upgrade; connection to a network running TCP/IP

Cost: To navigate the Web from The Transom, members pay a one-time fee of $18. The Transom service costs $6.95 a month or a prorated $5.95 an hour. All new users get five free hours. To obtain free start-up software, contact The Transom. (See above listing.)

Pluses

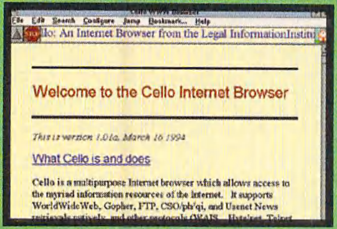
- With *Netscape*, you can interact with a document (even click on a hypertext link and move on to another page) before the original site has finished downloading.
- *Netscape* users are not restricted to one search at a time; they are able to perform multiple, simultaneous searches.
- *Netscape* offers a number of security features, including data encryption of Web documents, that ensure no outside party has access to your information. Plus, an icon in the bottom left corner indicates if you're in a secure server site.
- Take advantage of the Bookmark feature, a somewhat glorified hotlist option, that allows you to save Web site addresses for easy access later. The Bookmark describes the Web site, tells when you last visited and how long ago it was added to your hotlist.
- If you go with The Transom's *Netscape*, you won't have to worry about establishing a SLIP or PPP connection.

Minuses

- The history option on *Netscape* doesn't give users a complete map of where they've been during their session. Because it only follows one lineage from a home page, it automatically removes pages that were from a previous line of search.

Overall evaluation

Netscape 1.1 is the browser to beat. *Netscape* goes a long way in addressing two major Internet issues: security and downloading speed. In addition, *Netscape* is available for all popular desktop environments, including Windows, Macintosh, X Windows System, as well as emerging platforms such as 32-bit MS Windows (Windows '95) and Macintosh PowerPC.


File Edit Search Configure Jump Bookmark... Help
llo: An Internet Browser from the Legal InformationInstitu

Welcome to the Cello Internet Browser

This is version 1.01a, March 16 1994

What Cello is and does

Cello is a multipurpose Internet browser which allows access to the myriad information resources of the Internet. It supports WorldWideWeb, Gopher, FTP, CSO/ph/qi, and Usenet News

Cello 1.01

Cornell University Law School
ftp: **ftp.law.cornell.edu/pub/LII/Cello**
e-mail: **tb2@cornell.edu**

Description: Cello is a freeware Internet browser developed by Thomas Bruce at the Cornell University Law School.

Other Internet features: gopher, ftp, telnet, Usenet newsgroups

System requirements: *Windows 3.1*; 386 or higher computer; 9600 bps or higher modem; 4 MB RAM; 5 MB free disk space; Windows socket software; SLIP or PPP connection

Cost: Free

Pluses

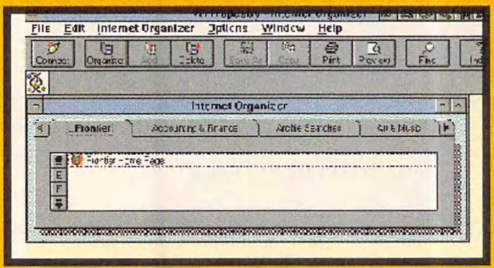
- *Cello*'s genius is its simplicity. It's probably one of the easiest browsers to learn. And this little freeware package holds some big features, such as file printing, a functional stop button and easy-to-use bookmarks.
- Adjustable fonts, styles and colors allow for customized screens and documents.
- *Cello* is surprisingly quick.

Minuses

- *Cello 1.01* does not support multiple document loading. However, *Version 2.0*, soon to be released, promises multiple downloading capabilities.
- The status bar communicates current action but not the size of the documents it is loading. Users have no idea how long the wait will be.
- While linking to other sites, neither text nor graphics appear until the entire document loads.

Overall evaluation

Cello is a good program for beginners because it requires little memory and contains good online help documentation. Serious Web users, though, will be frustrated with *Cello* because of its inability to multitask and its lack of file status information. The new version of *Cello* promises to address many of *Version 1.01*'s inadequacies and offer a more graphical front-end. You can get a glimpse of the menu system by ftping to **ftp.law.cornell.edu/pub/LII/Cello/C2Gifs/shot2.gif**.



Frontier Technologies Corporation
10201 N. Port Washington Road
Mequon, WI 53092
voice: 414-241-4555

SuperHighway Access for Windows WinTapestry

Description: SuperHighway Access is a fully integrated Internet access package. *WinTapestry* is the package within the SuperHighway package that offers point-and-click access to the World Wide Web.

Other Internet features: gopher, ftp, telnet, e-mail, Usenet newsgroups

System requirements: IBM-PC, 4 MB RAM (8 MB recommended); 10 MB free hard disk space; *Windows 3.1* or *Windows for Workgroups 3.11*; *MS-DOS version 3.3*

Cost: Retail price for SuperHighway Access is $125 (Internet connection not included).

Pluses

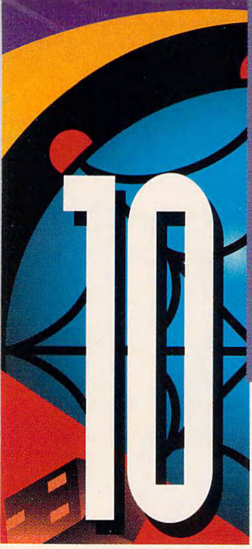
- *WinTapestry* organizes Web pages and other Internet sites, such as ftp, telnet and gopher, by subject in an index-card format. Perfect for people who care only about the information—not how they get to it.
- *WinTapestry* can support up to 30 search sessions at a time.
- Users can disable the display of images—making the documents appear faster—or they can defer displaying images until after all the text is downloaded.

Minuses

- With *WinTapestry*, users don't have a separate Web browser. Instead, it's lumped together with a number of other navigational tools.
- SuperHighway Access for Windows user manual devotes only a few, marginally helpful pages to explain its Web browser capabilities.

Overall evaluation

With its index-card layout that arranges sites by subject, SuperHighway Access gets credit for trying a different concept. If you like everything to have its own special folder, then *WinTapestry*'s organized structure will appeal to you. However, because *WinTapestry* offers many search tools rather than just a Web browser, quality is sacrificed for quantity. For instance, you won't find some standard Web browser features, such as a History option that lets you track your search. Instead, you'll find Web searching options to be fairly simple and without frills.



Tips for Browsing the World Wide Web on Prodigy

By Jack M. Germain

Here are some tips to keep in mind while navigating Prodigy's new Web browser.

While Prodigy's Web browser is functional and easy to use, it isn't stuffed with extra features. This special browser is bundled within Prodigy's proprietary software or it can be downloaded from Prodigy's main menu. To do this, jump ***web*** *and click on Browse the World Wide Web. Then follow Prodigy's instructions for downloading.*

Before you begin browsing, take a moment to read the following tips. They'll help you make the most of your time on the Web.

1 To cut down on cost and improve your productivity on the Web, use 14,400 bps modem speed if possible. Unfortunately, this fast speed is only available in some areas at this time. To check to see when 14,400 bps will be available in your area, jump **high speed setup**.

2 If you are given the option, select Text Only when visiting home pages. Since text moves much faster than graphics, you will be able to read what's on screen without waiting until the graphics have uploaded.

3 To make graphics-heavy home pages display more quickly, turn off the Load Images option by removing the X in the checkbox next to the Web browser's tool bar. In place of the graphics on Web pages, you'll find a box with an Image Missing message. Note that some home pages set up menus as image maps, in which case you won't see the menu until you reload with the Load Images option checked.

4 Use the Stop button as a brake. Once the hyperlink you want is displayed on the home page, press the Stop button to curtail the download. Then click on the desired hyperlink.

5 If you're running *Windows*, use the screen grab (or Clipboard) feature to save information displayed on your screen while on Prodigy. Later you can view, print or read the information offline to save money. Once you arrive at the screen you wish to save, hit Shift and Print Screen simultaneously. After you log off Prodigy, go to the View Clipboard icon from your Windows program manager. Use its file-save feature to store the image to disk. Repeat this process if you wish and save each screen capture as a new file name.

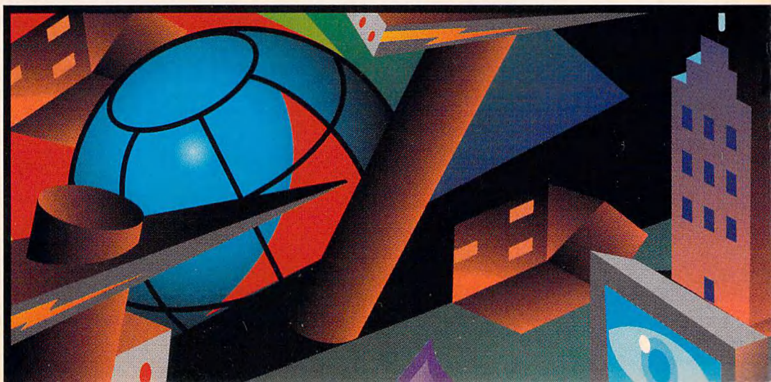
6 Print a hard copy of your Web page to keep key information handy. This helpful and unique feature of Prodigy's Web browser is a quick reference tool that can save you money and additional trips online. To print, select File on the Web browser's menu bar and then hit the Print option. (You can change print margins by selecting Page Setup in the File menu.) Keep in mind that the graphics that are part of a Web page will take longer to print.

7 Go multimedia on the Internet. The Prodigy Web browser lets you see images and hear sound files. When you click on a link to a supported image or sound, that file is automatically downloaded to your PC and plays using the appropriate viewer. MPEG, AVI and Quicktime formats are not supported by the Web browser but you can tell the browser to save the files to your hard disk. This way you can play them offline with other utilities. Set up the Web browser to work with external viewers by selecting Options, then Advanced Setup and then Viewer Setup.

8 Use Prodigy's home page directories such as The What's New List and The Yahoo List. They contain hot links to various Web sites and list the most popular and unusual attractions on the Internet. To get there from Prodigy's home page, just click on More Hot Spots.

9 Keep interesting page locations in the browser's HotList directory. Once you get to your destination, click on the HotList button. Once the HotList dialog box appears, hit Add to HotList. Your file name should then appear in the window box at the title prompt. Hit OK. The specified page will now be kept in the HotList directory. This feature lets you return to these pages quickly without typing in the lengthy http spot manually. Simply double click on the title in the drop down listing.

10 Use ftp and gopher services within the Web browser. Enter the ftp address where the browser window says Document URL. Start typing in the address at the far left with either: **ftp://(address)** or **gopher://(address)**. If a menu item is linked to a file, you can download it from the Web with ftp or gopher. Just click on the hyperlink or file name. The browser software will download that file and ask you where to put it in a dialog box. Select a directory on your system and enter a file name. **OA**



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- BEST Web browser or Internet front-end
- BEST Web site
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- BEST educational service
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- BEST SOHO (small office/home office) service
- BEST news service
- BEST legal service
- BEST online entertainment service
- BEST government service
- BEST BBS or newsgroup

TO ENTER: To request an entry form, contact the marketing communications group at ONLINE ACCESS magazine,

900 N. Franklin, Suite 310,
Chicago, Illinois 60610
(800) MODEM-01(voice)

ENTRY DEADLINE: SEPT 1, 95

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE ONLINE ACCESS/IIA HOTSHOTS AWARDS WILL BE FEATURED IN UPCOMING ISSUES OF ONLINE ACCESS AND DISTRIBUTED THROUGH IIA.

AWARDS CEREMONY: All HotShots winners will be honored with a banquet luncheon the month of December 1995 in New York City.

SPECIAL COVERAGE: Winners of the 1995 HotShots Awards will be featured in a special ONLINE ACCESS article appearing in the January 1996 issue.

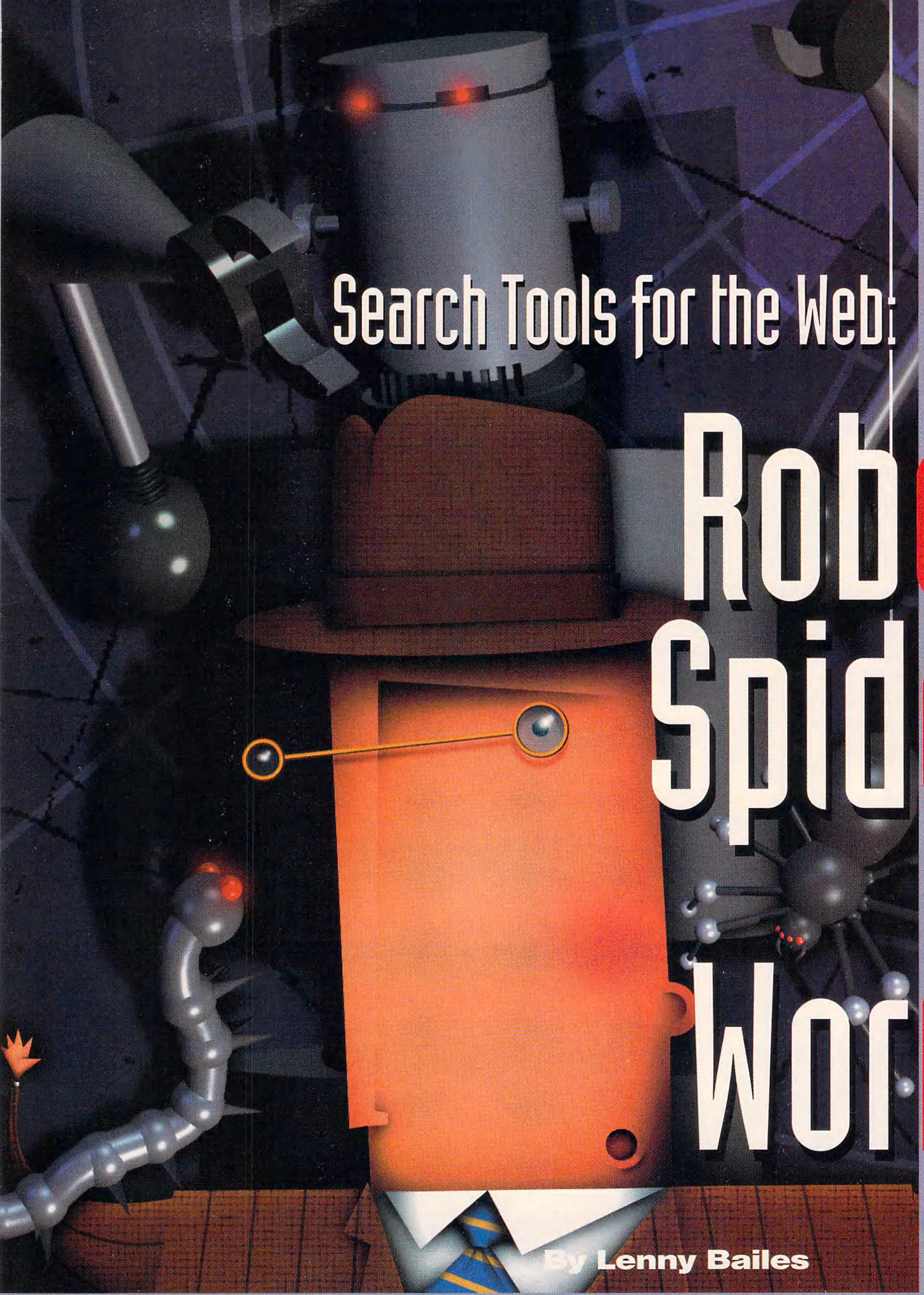


Illustration: Chris Lensch

Search Tools for the Web:

Robots, Spiders and Worms, Oh My!

By Lenny Bailes

Use these creepy crawlers to help you search the World Wide Web.

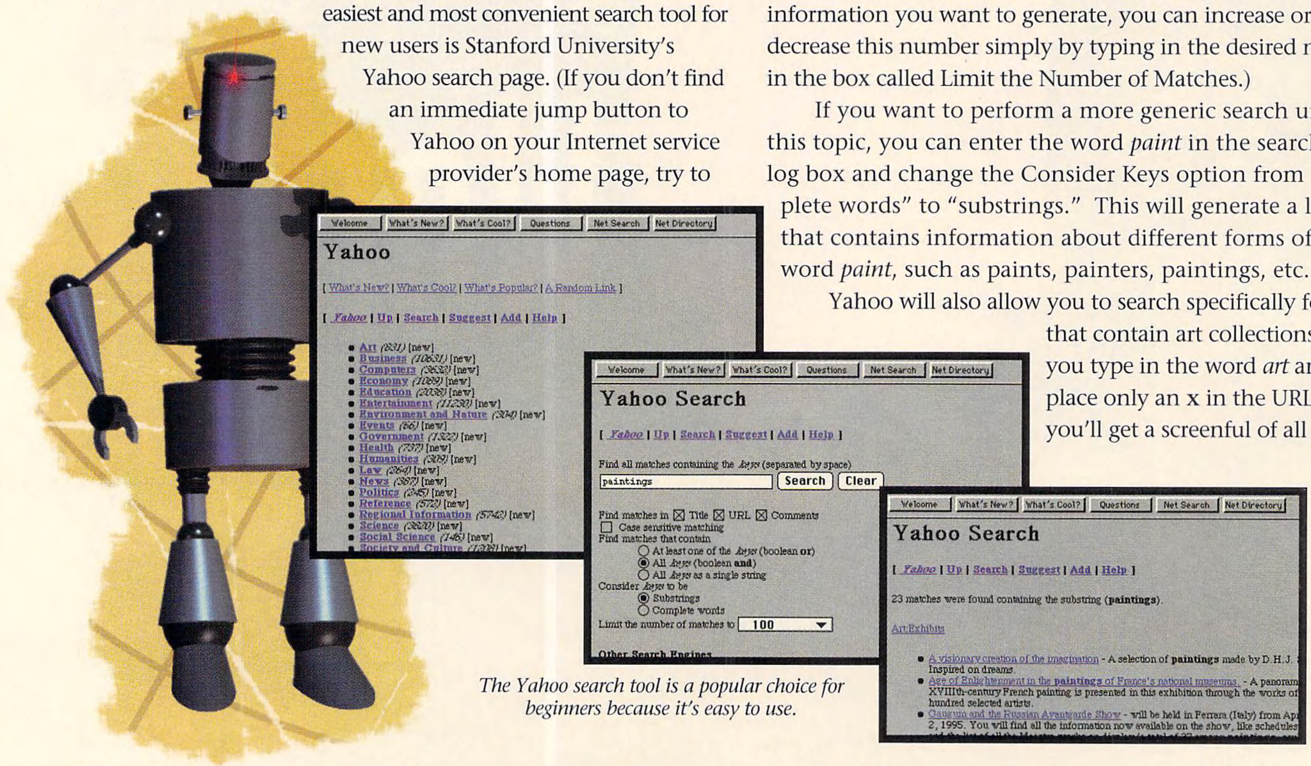
The World Wide Web is a big, sprawling place. Some people take naturally to clicking on jump buttons to go from site to site with no particular destination in mind. But others with finite amounts of time want to know how to cut to the chase to extract information from the Web without taking the scenic route.

A number of easily accessible search tools on the Web can help you get where you want to go in a hurry and help you find information on the nongraphical parts of the Internet as well. If you don't want the hassle of manually typing addresses into your Web browser, the first place to look for information is on your Internet provider's home page. Most people quickly become familiar with the What's New and What's Cool buttons on their browsers. These links are either embedded within the contents of the provider's home page or the browser itself has these features built into its menu.

In addition to browsing these lists of Web hotspots created by your front-end provider, you can also use a dedicated search tool to create your own index of places you'd like to visit on the Web. These search tools (affectionately nicknamed spiders, worms, robots or wanderers by the people who design them) retrieve information from sites posted on the Web through keyword searches. Computer programmers may argue that there are technical differences between these terms, but for all practical purposes, each of these search tools accomplishes the same thing. By typing in one or more keywords or phrases, search tools consult a database of known Internet sites to look for information matches. Some search tools will also wander out into the Web in real-time to seek information matches that are not already entered in an existing database.

Yea for Yahoo

Most Internet providers' home pages include an embedded option to access one or more search tools. Probably the easiest and most convenient search tool for new users is Stanford University's Yahoo search page. (If you don't find an immediate jump button to Yahoo on your Internet service provider's home page, try to look for one that lists Internet tools. Or, open the URL location dialog box on your browser's file menu and type in **http://www.yahoo.com/**.)



Yahoo

[What's New? | What's Cool? | What's Popular? | A Random Link]

[*Yahoo* | Up | Search | Suggest | Add | Help]

- Art (831) [new]
- Business (10631) [new]
- Computers (3632) [new]
- Economy (1069) [new]
- Education (2038) [new]
- Entertainment (11230) [new]
- Environment and Nature (304) [new]
- Events (66) [new]
- Government (1322) [new]
- Health (737) [new]
- Humanities (309) [new]
- Law (264) [new]
- News (387) [new]
- Politics (245) [new]
- Reference (572) [new]
- Regional Information (5742) [new]
- Science (3820) [new]
- Social Science (146) [new]
- Society and Culture (1308) [new]

Yahoo Search

[*Yahoo* | Up | Search | Suggest | Add | Help]

Find all matches containing the *keys* (separated by space)

paintings [Search] [Clear]

Find matches in ☒ Title ☒ URL ☒ Comments
☐ Case sensitive matching
Find matches that contain
○ At least one of the *keys* (boolean **or**)
● All *keys* (boolean **and**)
○ All *keys* as a single string
Consider *keys* to be
● Substrings
○ Complete words
Limit the number of matches to 100

Other Search Engines

Yahoo Search

[*Yahoo* | Up | Search | Suggest | Add | Help]

23 matches were found containing the substring (**paintings**).

Art:Exhibits

- A visionary creation of the imagination - A selection of **paintings** made by D.H.J.
Inspired on dreams.
- Age of Enlightenment in the **paintings** of France's national museums. - A panoram
XVIIIth-century French painting is presented in this exhibition through the works of
hundred selected artists.
- Gauguin and the Russian Avantgarde Show - will be held in Ferrara (Italy) from Ap
2, 1995. You will find all the information now available on the show, like schedules

The Yahoo search tool is a popular choice for beginners because it's easy to use.

The first thing you'll see on the Yahoo search page is a set of What's New, What's Cool, etc. options, similar to the buttons that are part of some Web browser interfaces. On the next line, you'll see options for accessing the Yahoo search engine followed by a bulleted list of categories by subject. Note: If you jump to any of the highlighted links, the search-button options remain visible at the tops of subsequent Web pages.

Yahoo searches for corresponding information within titles of Web pages, specific Internet URL addresses and comments about the contents of the page. To generate your own custom search of World Wide Web locations from Yahoo's home page, click on the Search button and the Yahoo search page will appear.

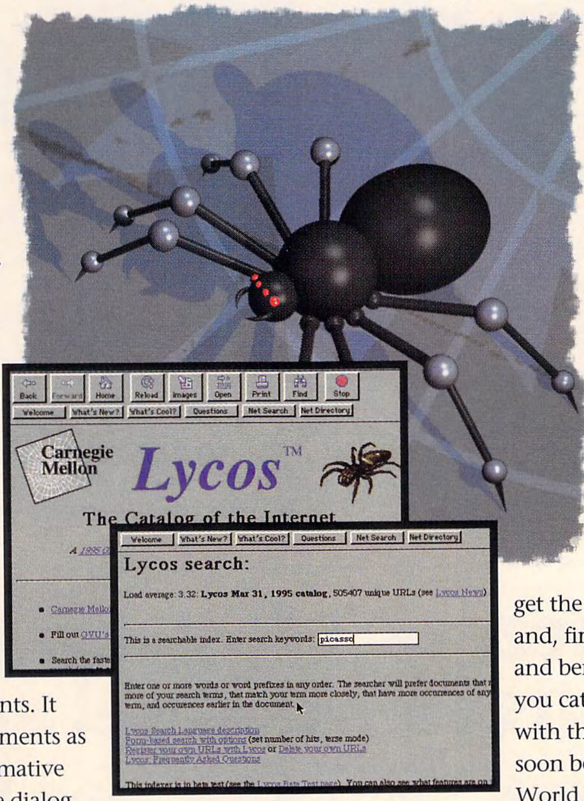
Yahoo Search Options Let's say that you're looking for an online art gallery that displays scans of paintings by Jan Vermeer. You might start your search by entering the keywords **paintings** or **Vermeer**. You can then broaden your search by using Boolean logic. (For this type of search, try to use complete words rather than substrings.) Type in both keywords together: **Vermeer paintings**. Then, to make the search even more generic, change the Find Matches setting to "at least one of the keys" instead of "all keys." When you repeat the search, you will then get several screens of information about sites that contain information about Vermeer or paintings. (Note that the default setting for the number of matches in the search dialog box is set to 100. Depending on how much information you want to generate, you can increase or decrease this number simply by typing in the desired number in the box called Limit the Number of Matches.)

If you want to perform a more generic search under this topic, you can enter the word *paint* in the search dialog box and change the Consider Keys option from "complete words" to "substrings." This will generate a listing that contains information about different forms of the word *paint*, such as paints, painters, paintings, etc.

Yahoo will also allow you to search specifically for sites that contain art collections. If you type in the word *art* and place only an x in the URL box, you'll get a screenful of all the

Web address locations that contain the word *art* in their domain names. This feature is also useful if you're searching for a Web page on a specific server or by a specific author. You could use it, for example, to display all of the pages located at **http://sunsite.unc.edu** or to look for a page sponsored by the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

Another Yahoo feature allows you to search for case-sensitive matches—words that can be capitalized and lowercased, such as Net and net. To do this, check the Case-sensitive box and enter your keyword.



The Catalog of the Internet

Lycos search:

Load average: 3.32: **Lycos Mar 31, 1995 catalog**, 505407 unique URLs (see Lycos News)

This is a searchable index. Enter search keywords: picasso

Enter one or more words or word prefixes in any order. The searcher will prefer documents that more of your search terms, that match your term more closely, that have more occurrences of any term, and occurences earlier in the document.

Lycos Search Language description
Form-based search with options (set number of hits, terse mode)
Register your own URLs with Lycos or Delete your own URLs
Lycos: Frequently Asked Questions

The Lycos search engine, drawing from a database of over two million documents, provides extensive search capabilities on the Web.

While Yahoo is easy to use, almost always available and provides a number of ways to narrow search criteria, its database is not as large as some of the other search tools out there. In fact, as of this writing, a search for paintings by Pablo Picasso, similar to the one we did on Vermeer, produced no site listings.

At the bottom of Yahoo's search page, you'll find a series of jump buttons that point to other search tools, some of which have much larger databases. One such tool is the Lycos Search Engine.

The Lycos Search Engine

Carnegie Mellon University's Lycos search engine (**http://query1.lycos.cs.cmu.edu/cgi-bin/pursuit**) is a Web search tool that indexes a database of over two million documents. It searches the internal text of the documents as well as their titles, and includes informative text excerpts in its search reports. The dialog box on the introductory screen simply asks you to type in one or more keywords and assigns a relevancy rating to its site findings ranging from .010 up to 1.000. (The higher the decimal number you enter in the box, the fewer sites you'll see, but with increased relevancy to the keyword.)

Drawing from a larger database, a Lycos search is likely to generate a large number of site listings, some of which may not contain information relevant to your query. For instance, a search on the keyword **Picasso** produced 226 entries, some related to computer hardware nicknamed after the famous painter.

Lycos Search Options You can narrow your Lycos search by adding additional keywords or by accessing the additional search options available on the advanced form-based search with options page. (Go to the Lycos home page at **http://lycos.cs.cmu.edu/** and select the box called Search the Big Catalog. Or, go directly to **http://query2.lycos.cs.cmu.edu/lycos-form.html.**) Although it's a bit more complicated, the advanced Lycos page provides more options and allows you to conduct a more extensive search. Again, it sets a maximum number of sites to display and assigns a relevancy index to the search results.

Keep in mind that if you generate a report with a large number of entries, you can use the internal Find command on your Web browser's Edit menu to page quickly through the document and see if it contains the information you're looking for. In the long report generated from the keyword **Picasso**, for instance, make the Web browser search for **Pablo** or **gravure** to find specific site entries pertaining to the painter.

Lycos is the most powerful and busiest spider on the Web. When you jump to the Lycos home page, you'll find five buttons for the Lycos search engine. Be aware that all five copies may be in use during peak hours of the day. If you try one and it's busy, try the next button.

Tips for Success

The tricks to any successful Web search include finding a useful search engine, knowing what keywords to enter to get the information you're looking for, and, finally, understanding the options and benefits that each tool offers. Once you catch on to the art of searching with the various available tools, you'll soon be able to find anything on the World Wide Web worth knowing about in a matter of minutes.

Web Reference Tools

Reference tools can also be useful in your Web searches. Besides providing factual data, some even lead you to Web pages related to your topic for further information. You can access these Web resources by searching under the keywords ***reference*** *or* ***encyclopedia.*** *Or, check out some of these popular reference tools.*

Webster's Dictionary
http://c.gp.cs.cmu.edu:5103/prog/webster

Bartlett's Familiar Quotations
http://www.columbia.edu/~svl2/bartlett/

World Fact Book - 1994 CIA Edition
http://www.ic.gov/94fact/fb94toc/fb94toc.html

Other Web Search Tools

Here are some other Web search engines to be aware of, in case Yahoo doesn't find what you're looking for or Lycos is too busy.

The WebCrawler

http://webcrawler.cs.washington.edu/WebCrawler/WebQuery.html

The WebCrawler searches a default database of 100,000 documents on content index and another 700,000 titles for unvisited Web locations. Since document content as well as title and URL locator are indexed, you may turn up more hits in your searches here than you would with Yahoo. WebCrawler displays a relevancy index rating after each site entry ranging from 0 to 1000.

EINet Galaxy

http://www.einet.net/

Like Yahoo, EINet includes a set of preestablished hotlist categories that you can browse for pointers to interesting Web sites. The dedicated EINet search tool has check-boxes for browsing Web page titles and other Internet resources. EINet can search WWW pages, pages of subscribers to the Galaxy Information Service, gopher listings and several other network resources. EINet employs WAIS (Wide Area Information Server) technology and can rummage through the entire Internet.

PharmInfoNet

http://pharminfo.com/

This page, sponsored by Pharmaceutical Information Associates, Ltd., contains an online database of drug information arranged alphabetically by trade name. While not complete, it covers a large number of pharmaceutical compounds with links to medical articles on their use and side effects.

The World Wide Web Acronym Server

http://curia.ucc.ie/info/net/acronyms/acro.html

This page allows you to type in any acronym (scientific or computer related) whose meaning you want to know. A separate e-mail service is available for dictionary and thesaurus queries.

The COMMA Hotlist Database Search

http://www.cm.cf.ac.uk/htbin/AndrewW/Hotlist/hot_list_search.csh

The COMMA Hotlist Database is an alphabetical listing compiled from all the readable NCSA Mosaic hotlists on COMMA UNIX systems. You can search by both title and subject. The author encourages you to add/upload your own hotlist of interesting Web sites to the database.

Archie Sites

http://gopher.vt.edu:70/1/other/archie

This page contains a list of archie servers that can search ftp sites throughout the world for specific file names. The tools on this page work in the same way as an archie search tool accessed through a text-based gopher page. **OA**

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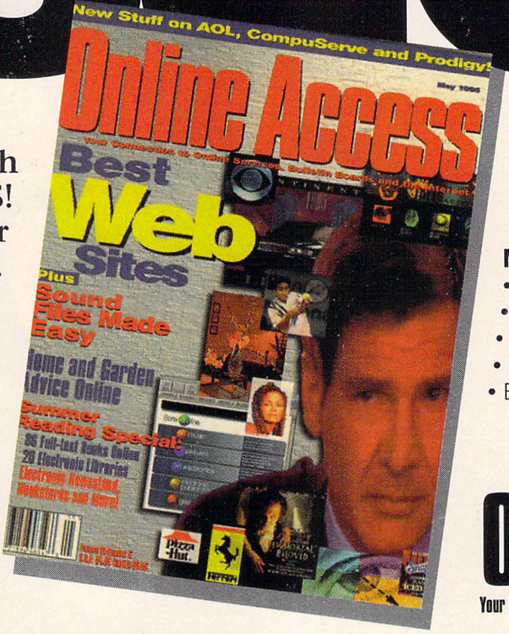
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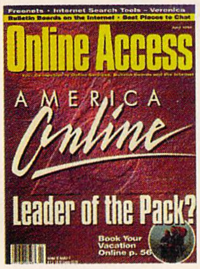
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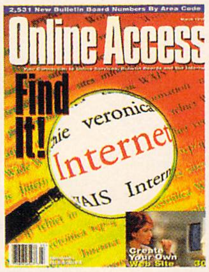
- 10 Popular Newsgroups
- Soap Stars Online


2,531 New Bulletin Board Numbers By Area Code
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veronica
Internet
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Create Your Own Web Site

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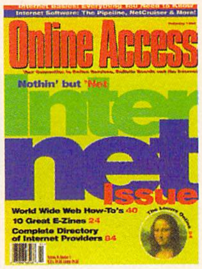
- Find it Online Using Archie!
- High Speed Modems
- The WELL's Bruce Katz
- Entrepreneurs Online
- Strangelove on the World Wide Web
- BBS Phone Book: 2,531 numbers listed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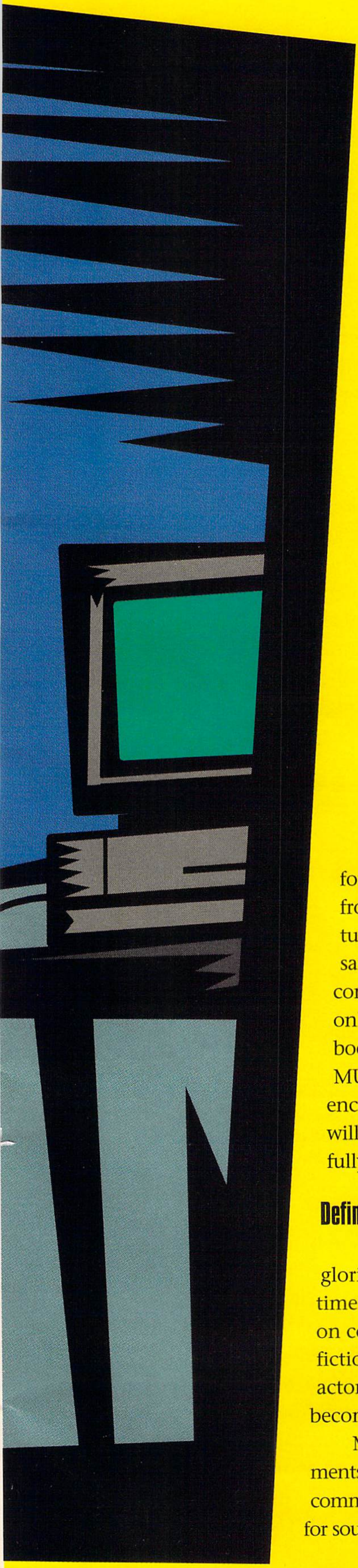


WHEN MUD MOOS AND MUSH MUSES

By Rita Laws

FOR AN ESCAPE FROM REALITY, JOIN A MUD GAME.

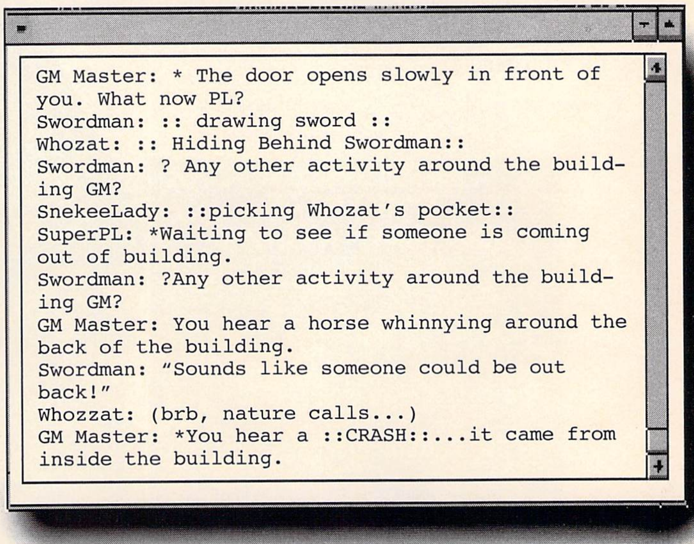
Just as making mud pies calls for creativity and imagination from kids, the cyberspace adventure called MUDding requires the same inspiration from adults. A combination of live chat and online game, MUDs are a fantasy book come to life electronically. MUDding is such a unique experience that virtually every MUDder will tell you it must be tried to be fully understood.

Definition of a MUD

MUDs can be thought of as glorified chat rooms. They are real-time interactive games played out on computer screens. Users assume fictional identities and become actors, while computer screens become scripts filled with chat.

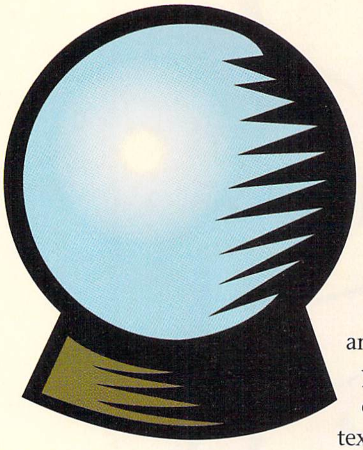
MUDders create virtual environments by typing in dialog/text as well as commands/punctuation, which stand for sound effects and actions. Under these computerized, fictional personas and within these fairy tale-like settings, users abandon reality to join a cyberspace universe of group-experienced fantasy.

Rick DeJong, a MUDder from Pleasant Hill, California, says, "MUDs are better than books because you get to play in



```
GM Master: * The door opens slowly in front of
you. What now PL?
Swordman: :: drawing sword ::
Whozat: :: Hiding Behind Swordman::
Swordman: ? Any other activity around the build-
ing GM?
SnekeeLady: ::picking Whozat's pocket::
SuperPL: *Waiting to see if someone is coming
out of building.
Swordman: ?Any other activity around the build-
ing GM?
GM Master: You hear a horse whinnying around the
back of the building.
Swordman: "Sounds like someone could be out
back!"
Whozzat: (brb, nature calls...)
GM Master: *You hear a ::CRASH::...it came from
inside the building.
```

AOL's Role-Playing forum (keyword: **online gaming***) features chat rooms for various MUD games. In this game, GM Master and SuperPL are the moderators and the others are online players.*



the worlds you formerly just read about. And MUDs are more alive than video games because the creatures interact with you— they talk back.”

Types of MUDs

MUDs vary in both format and type. Depending on where you play them, MUDs appear in one of two formats: text only or text with graphics. Text-based MUDs are the original (and still the most common) MUD format and are the only MUD games found on the Internet. Text-based MUD games are conducted by typing into a blank screen and playing out the scene in your mind. Since many Internet MUDs are run by college students with older computers used solely to house the MUD server software, expensive graphics are not an option. But that doesn’t seem to matter; many MUDders still prefer this traditional MUD format.

The other MUD format—text with graphics—is referred to as GUI (graphical user interface) MUDs, pronounced gooey muds. These MUDs, still in their infancy but growing in popularity, are easy to get the hang of because you see pictures and visuals rather than just text and codes. Nearly all of the major online services offer these graphical MUDs along with the more standard text-based MUDs.

Besides distinguishing MUDs by format, MUDs can also be classified into three categories: combat, role-play and social. Combat MUDs are the original games, based on medieval lore and Norse myth. Players vie for power, glory and property while defending themselves against dragons and monsters.

TYPES OF SOCIAL MUDS

MUD — Multi User Dimension

MOO — MUD Object Oriented

MUSE — Multi User Shared Environment

MUSH — Multi User Shared Hallucination

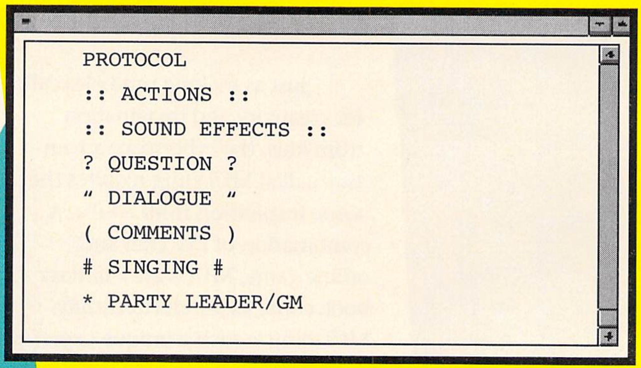
Role-play MUDs are either based on preexisting worlds, such as those found in popular modern books, or they are created with a special theme in mind. MUD environments and situations are often adapted from books, but the actual characters are redefined by individual players.

Social MUDs are also referred to as Tiny MUDs or MOOs, MUSEs and MUSHes. Social MUDs are very popular and contain more prose, dialogue and social interaction than other MUDs. The fun lies in playing under a chosen personality (which is often very different than your own).

Playing in the MUDs

The two basic ways to connect to MUDs are by telneting or using a client program. The easiest way is to use an Internet service like Delphi or Netcom with gophers that instantly connect you to MUDs. No fuss, no bother, no address to type in.

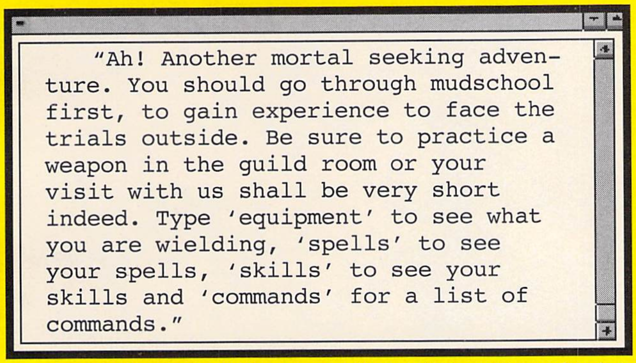
Once you arrive at a MUD page, you will see that the opening screen resembles that of an ordinary BBS. However, looks can be deceiving. Determining what to do next can be tricky and it depends on the directions your particular MUD server provides. Although some screens are easier to follow than others, you’ll surely find your way around if you move slowly.



```
PROTOCOL
:: ACTIONS ::
:: SOUND EFFECTS ::
? QUESTION ?
" DIALOGUE "
( COMMENTS )
# SINGING #
* PARTY LEADER/GM
```

Here is a partial list of text-based commands you’ll find on MUDs running on America Online. Although MUDs running on other commercial online services have similar commands, they differ slightly.

One important thing to note is that every MUD game runs differently. There are variations in the characters, setting, online moderation, commands and dialog. In order to become familiar with a particular game, beginners are urged to print and study a list of commands (usually found at the main menu) as well as to observe a few games before beginning their first MUD session. Because of the time required to learn these commands and game rules, MUDders usually become regulars on only one or two MUDs.



```
   "Ah! Another mortal seeking adven-
ture. You should go through mudschool
first, to gain experience to face the
trials outside. Be sure to practice a
weapon in the guild room or your
visit with us shall be very short
indeed. Type 'equipment' to see what
you are wielding, 'spells' to see
your spells, 'skills' to see your
skills and 'commands' for a list of
commands."
```

Stick in the Mud's opening screen spells out what newbies need to do in order to obtain a list of commands and define their character.

Once you have reviewed your list of commands, you will be asked to log in and then name and define your character. First, choose your race (human, gnome, elf, hobbit, dwarf or giant) and class (cleric, mage, thief or warrior). Then pick your gender (male, female or neuter) and decide whether you will be good, evil or neutral. Finally, choose your occupation and pick your weapon, spells and skills.

With your newly created character, you can now venture into a text-based, computer-generated environment, ready to train for your own survival. MUD schools, offered by some MUDs such as Stick in the Mud (telnet to **ugsparc31.eecg. toronto.edu 9000**), help prepare you for the game by identifying your surroundings and guiding you through actions. In addition, moderators or sysops (called Dinos as in Dinosaurs) are often online, ready to answer questions. After a few sessions of MUD school, most users are ready to jump into the real thing.

Tips for MUDding

Here are a few tips to keep in mind while MUDding.

1. Learn the basic commands. If you don't, you'll find yourself staring at a cursor with no idea of what to do next.

2. Don't steal from other players. And especially don't steal items from corpses you haven't killed . . . it's not polite.

3. Be polite. Even bad guys are civil.

4. Avoid maving. Maving is the accidental practice of speaking publicly when you mean to whisper privately.

5. Don't get too familiar with strangers too quickly. Online personalities may be quite different from personalities of the same people offline.

6. Beware of psychological traps. Don't allow yourself to become overly dependent on your character's interactions online.

7. Be aware of virtual attacks. These attacks occasionally occur when a hacker finds a way to manipulate the software and force your character to do and say whatever he or she wants. Unfortunately, you can't stop this when it happens.

8. Always help newbies. Without newbies, the MUD eventually dies.

Profile of a MUDder

MUDders come from all over the world, tend to be college students or young professionals, and are generally well educated, verbally expressive, creative, funny and open-minded. MUDders like to play with words, but not necessarily with computers. In fact, a surprising number of MUD players only know computer basics.

According to Lydia Leong, a 21-year-old MUD expert and senior at the University of Pennsylvania, "MUDding is not about technology. It's about people. It's a forum for people who otherwise might not interact with each other to create shared spaces, to be creative together and to just talk to each other."

Some MUDders are isolated geographically or socially, but when they form a MUD community, the bond is strong. Similarities, not differences, are stressed, and the group is loyal to and supportive of its members. As a freshman, when Leong stopped MUDding for a week during exam time, she was quickly inundated with calls from fellow MUDders wanting to know if she was okay.

Wrestling in the MUD

Some people who don't understand MUDs might compare them to cults. The important difference is that there is no brainwashing or mind control in MUDs; anyone can drop out at anytime. However, there is some speculation about people who have become addicted to MUDs. Although MUD addicts are a minority group of somewhat compulsive people who tend to overdo on other things as well, stories abound of people

MUDding for 20 hours at a time, or for three days and nights with only short naps. One MUDder warned me as I undertook writing about MUDs, “Be careful! Last time I MUDded, I stayed up three days in a row from 3 a.m. to 2 p.m.”

Besides sacrificing sleep, MUD addicts tend to skimp on other basic necessities as well. For example, eating is done at the keyboard when possible and usually involves no-cook junk food. In addition, players may use the code P2P, which means he or she has paused only to use the bathroom and will be right back.

Fortunately, addiction is curbed on commercial MUDs due to the high hourly rates for connect time. And on the free ’Net, college students must study enough to make passing grades because if they flunk out, they lose their no-cost student accounts.

If, in fact, you do become addicted to MUDs, you might be interested to know about one self-induced MUD addiction cure that’s a sure-fire way to stop playing the game: Bang your head on your keyboard several times. This creates a random nonrepeatable password so that your MUD ID will never be used again.

Finally, remember that while no addiction is healthy, there are worse things to be addicted to. At least MUD addiction won’t get you arrested or thrown into a hospital for detox. **OA**

HOW AND WHERE TO FIND MUDS

You will find MUDs on the Internet and on these online services.

Major Online Services

America Online
Role-Playing Forum
keywords: **online gaming**
800-827-6364, voice

CompuServe
Multiplayer Games Forum
keyword: **mpgames**
Role-Playing Games Forum
keyword: **rpgames**
Games Forum
keyword: **games**
800-848-8199, voice

Delphi
Choose **internet** at opening screen, then choose **gopher**.
800-695-4005, voice

eWorld
From the Town Square, choose **electric adventures**.
800-775-4556, voice

GEnie
keyword: **games**
800-638-9636, voice

ImagiNation
Go to opening screen **Clubhouse** and check out the **RPG Zone.**
800-IMAGIN-1, voice

Prodigy
keyword: **Games BB**
800-PRODIGY, voice

Web Sites

MUD Info:
http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~lwl/mudinfo.html

The MUDdex:
http://www.ccs.neu.edu/home/lpb/muddex.html

Usenet Newsgroups

Announcements:
rec.games.mud.announce

Administration:
rec.games.mud.admin

Combat:
rec.games.mud.diku, alt.mud.lp, rec.games.mud.lp

Discussion: **alt.mud, rec.games.mud, rec.games.mud.misc**

Social: **alt.mud.tiny, rec.games.mud.tiny**

Telnetable MUDs

(connect as **guest**)
Diversity University:
du.org 8888

LambdaMoo:
lambda.parc.xerox.com 8888

Nails:
flounder.rutgers.edu 5150

Nightfall MUD:
nova.tat.physik.uni-tuebingen.de 4242

PernMUSH:
cesium.clock.org 4201

FredNet MOO:
fred.net 8888

Stick in the Mud:
ugsparc31.eecg.toronto.edu 9000

The WELLmuse:
well.com 4201

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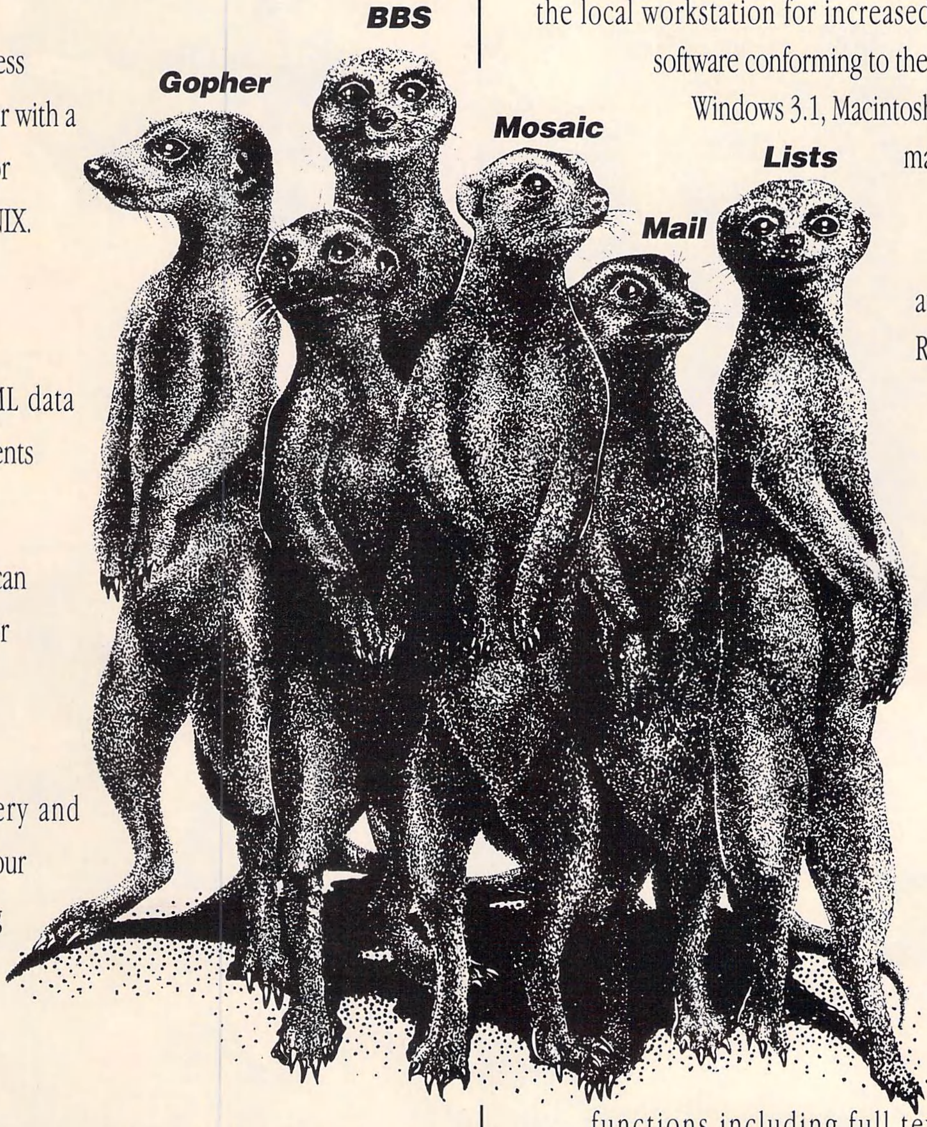

- Bulletin Board access via telnet and dialup or with a TEAMate GUI client for Windows, Mac and UNIX.
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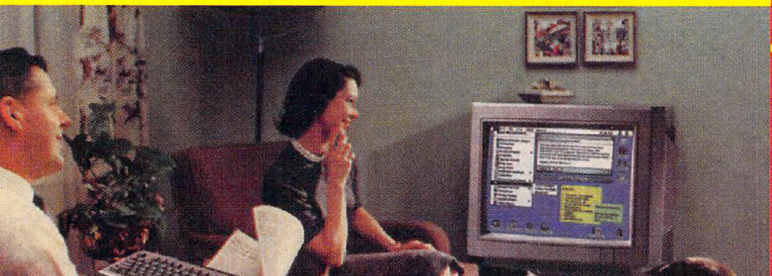

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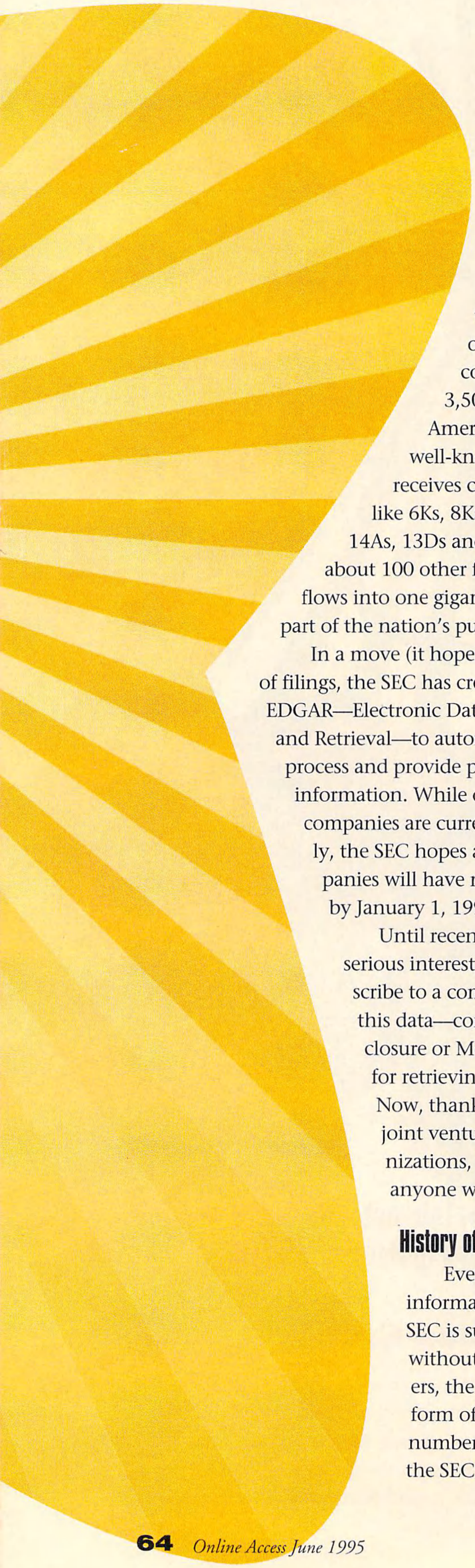
Charming the Beast:

Illustration: Anthony S. Ma

Thanks to EDGAR and the Internet, valuable corporate data is now available to the public for free.

By Elias Crim

One of the most amazing things about the Internet is its sheer volume of free information, from the rawest of data through polished hypertext editions of great literature and gorgeous, colorful artworks. While some of the information is for sheer entertainment value, other information is valuable data relevant to a wide-ranging audience.



One major contributor of the raw data available on the Internet is the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in Washington, D.C. Each year the SEC receives annual filings that contain the previous year's financial and corporate data from 3,500 public companies in America. Aside from the well-known 10Ks, the SEC receives corporate documents like 6Ks, 8Ks, 10Qs, 10Cs, 10Ds, 14As, 13Ds and 13Gs, along with about 100 other forms. All of this data flows into one gigantic database that is part of the nation's public records.

In a move (it hopes) to a paperless world of filings, the SEC has created a program called EDGAR—Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval—to automate its data collection process and provide public access to the information. While only a few thousand companies are currently filing electronically, the SEC hopes all publicly held companies will have made the conversion by January 1, 1996.

Until recently, someone with a serious interest in EDGAR had to subscribe to a commercial repackager of this data—companies such as Disclosure or Moody's—and paid a fee for retrieving these documents. Now, thanks to the Internet and a joint venture between two organizations, this data is available to anyone with a PC and a modem.

History of EDGAR

Even though all of this information gathered by the SEC is supposed to be available without charge to us taxpayers, the data exists only in the form of many gigabytes, raw numbers and ASCII text on the SEC's database.

Therefore, several years ago, Mead Data Corporation, parent company of LEXIS-NEXIS, was awarded a multiyear contract from the U.S. government to find a way to disseminate EDGAR information to interested companies on a wholesale basis. While Mead built the back-end of the new system, CompuServe won the contract for the communications portion of EDGAR, which includes providing notification and receipt of EDGAR filings to companies. Through EDGARLink, companies can file online through CompuServe's network or through a direct link to the SEC.

"The beauty of this system," says CompuServe's Virginia-based administrator of the system, Dave Link, "is that companies can now avoid the Federal Express bills they used to incur when submitting this material. Further, they can obtain official confirmation on the acceptance of their materials much more quickly." CompuServe also offers an EDGAR forum for companies interested in automating their annual filings. For more information about EDGAR on Compuserve, go **edg**. Or, to order an EDGAR kit, call 800-848-8199, voice.

EDGAR Fans

The EDGAR project sits at the intersection of law, finance and economics and has already become quite visible in the research and academic communities. EDGAR's regular following includes people who work in corporate planning and research departments or who are corporate attorneys, securities analysts, investment managers, consultants, librarians and other information-gathering professionals.

Since these people have very specific needs, resellers of SEC data have made it their mission to meet these needs as quickly and as easily as possible. For a few thousand dollars or less annually, several companies offer corporate researchers a way to save a lot of time.

EDGAR on Moody's and Disclosure

Companies like Moody's Investors Service, a commercial database service owned by Dun & Bradstreet, offer the same EDGAR data that the Internet does, but they repackage and format it first. For several years, these companies have been reselling the SEC's corporate data, both online and stored on CD-ROM.

By adding various software interfaces and search engines, these services speed up the retrieval process and make the output data easier to understand and utilize. You can easily search the documents, review indexes within them, jump from section to section, cut and paste, save to disk, print out selected reports, make the fonts uniform and much more.

A subscription to Moody's data, called Moody's Company Data with EDGAR, costs $3,300 to $6,000 annually and is stored on CD-ROM. It offers convenient access to both Moody's Company data—detailed business and financial data on over 10,000 public companies—and SEC filings, available in a top-quality, customized format.

Although Moody's service is more expensive than some of the others, it offers numerous advantages. For instance, it distributes all SEC submissions in several formats—either original ASCII format or a cleaned-up version. It also offers access software to dial up and download new data from Mead Data Corporation. Beginning in April, Moody's introduced direct access to its product online, with software that automatically updates corporate filings.

Disclosure Inc., another commerical database service, recently introduced a new product called EDGAR Plus, which combines the SEC online database with Disclosure's user-friendly version of EDGAR, plus pre-EDGAR (back to 1968) filings. A subscription to this service, which costs $4,400 for new subscribers and $1,200 for current CD-ROM subscribers, means only one CD-ROM disk to wrestle with as opposed to multiple CDs, as with Moody's, for example. EDGAR Plus contains five types of SEC documents and even links users to international filings. Customers can download the full spectrum of Disclosure's corporate documents through LEXIS/NEXIS or Westlaw once they subscribe to the service.

"EDGAR-light" Online

Virtually every commercial online service offers some kind of corporate information, such as company profiles, but the information is not nearly as extensive and detailed as the information you'll find on EDGAR.

For a limited time, members of Apple's eWorld have access to a feature called the "10K Library," Hoover's Company Profiles and the Dow Jones Corporate Reports as part of its basic service, for example. (keyword: **finance**)

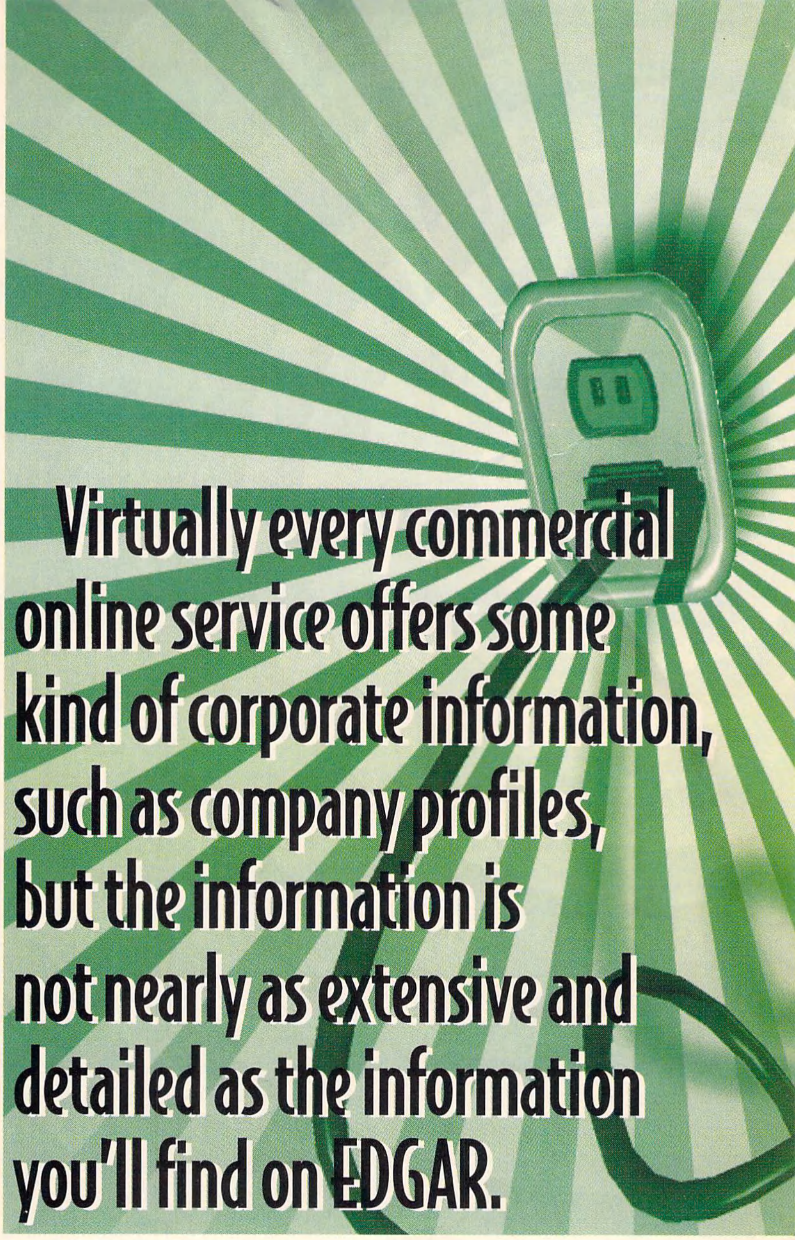
America Online also offers access to Hoover's Company Profiles. (keyword: **hoovers**)

Dow Jones News/Retrieval offers SEC Online, a database containing the full texts of all 10K, 10Q, 20-F, annual reports and proxy filings, searchable by keyword or company name. (keyword: **//sec$**)

CompuServe provides access to Disclosure's collection of SEC reports, which cover the past eight years. These reports include income statements, balance sheets and ratio reports, as well as quarterly income statements for the last five quarters. Ownership reports include management discussions and ownership information, corporate salaries, stock holdings of directors and principal shareholders as well as the president's letter to shareholders. Single company reports from Disclosure are available for $1 or less, while full company reports cost up to $42. To check out Disclosure on CompuServe, go **disclosure**.

EDGAR on the Internet

Not every user of this kind of data is a large company doing legal research, of course. Suppose you're a shareholder in a publicly held company and you've heard a rumor that the board of directors gave the company's president a ridiculously large salary raise last year. And suppose you'd like to compare his or her salary with those salaries of 25 top executives in the same industry. Wouldn't it be handy to be able to look up such a comparison online? Even better, get the information for free off the Internet?



Virtually every commercial online service offers some kind of corporate information, such as company profiles, but the information is not nearly as extensive and detailed as the information you'll find on EDGAR.

The Town Hall project (**http://www.town.hall.org**), run by the Internet Multicasting Service (IMS) in Washington, D.C., is born of a National Science Foundation grant with additional assistance from R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company. The aim of IMS is to investigate how large data archives (such as the SEC's database) can be made easily available to the general public. Their goal for the EDGAR project is to transform this lengthy, dense and somewhat incomprehensible data into something more readable and usable for both businesses and individuals.

Since January 1994, the Town Hall project has been "broadcasting" the SEC's corporate filings on the Internet via anonymous ftp. Since March 1994, both the IMS and its partner in the SEC project, New York University's Stern School of

> **Whether you access EDGAR on the Internet or through a commercial online service, you'll find each has advantages and disadvantages as well as unique options.**

Business, have provided access to the filings via e-mail, gopher and the Web.

The Stern School's team runs the project and acts primarily as front-end Web developers for custom filing retrieval software, as well as for developing several new databases to cross-reference various kinds of information not currently available. The school is also trying to better accommodate its users by studying the kinds of tasks they perform and with which kinds of forms. This EDGAR program is funded by the National Science Foundation, Sun Microsystems, O'Reilly & Associates, Harper Collins, Persoft and several others.

According to Mark Ginsburg, administrator of the Stern School's Web site (**http://edgar.stern.nyu.edu/**), the school plans to facilitate fairly sophisticated searches and improve its Web browser capabilities. As a result, Stern School's EDGAR search tends to appeal to a more academic audience that is interested in in-depth issues such as regulatory matters, business histories and legal concerns.

Ginsburg and his colleagues keep records of user access statistics on both the Town Hall and Stern School EDGAR sites. The Stern School server typically transmits nearly 500 files on a daily basis, whereas the IMS's Town Hall server averages almost 1,500 files daily via ftp and 178 files via the Web.

"What the Internet Web offers this mass of data is a collection of intriguing tools, such as the Wide Area Information Server (WAIS) and others," says Ginsburg.

EDGAR Info Sought on the 'Net

The Internet Town Hall project's users are both experts (such as corporate law librarians) and novices (such as inexperienced private investors), Ginsburg claims. He says that their "greatest hits" of information are the 10Ks, the proxies (DEF 14As), acquisitions filings (schedules and 13D and 13G) and mutual fund prospectuses.

Both experts and beginners are searching for answers to questions such as: Why did XYZ corporation lay off 5,000 employees last quarter? Are the salaries of XYZ's officers in line with other similar companies in the industry?

What is the "red herring" prospectus? Is it the same as the initial public offering (IPO)? In what companies does company XYZ currently have a 5 percent ownership position? In what companies does my mutual fund have a 5 percent or greater position currently? How many corporate boards does Mr. John Smith sit on?

The Future of EDGAR

At the moment, not all the above questions can be easily answered on EDGAR. However, this will change in the near future. More and more information is put out on the Internet all the time. An example of one interesting analysis that might be done in the near future is a study of corporate officer migration patterns. EDGAR would record the flow of executives from one public company to another to help attribute those resignations and hirings to corporate performance. Other information that will be made available to the public soon over the Internet include insider buys and sells.

Interestingly, companies like Disclosure and Moody's are not troubled by the Internet Town Hall project since they have Internet plans of their own. Ed Spitzberg, Internet project manager for Disclosure, says that the company plans to put its EDGAR index on the Internet in late June or July. Eventually, both electronic filings and pre-EDGAR filings will be available to subscribers—for a fee, of course. Specialized database reports for individual investors will also be offered.

Whether you access EDGAR on the Internet or through a commercial online service, you'll find each has advantages and disadvantages as well as unique options. The best method for you depends on who you are, what kind of information you're looking for and what you want to do with that information. **OA**

Ways to Get to EDGAR

To access EDGAR, check out these electronic Internet sites or contact one of the commercial database services listed below.

Town Hall Project

e-mail: mail@town.hall.org
(request edgar/general.txt)
ftp: ftp.town.hall.org
(login as "anonymous"; use your e-mail address as password)
gopher: gopher.town.hall.org.
WWW: http://www.town.hall.org.

New York University's Stern School

WWW: http://edgar.stern.nyu.edu/

Moody's Investors Service

voice: 800-342-5647, ext. 0435 for basic product information; ext. 4351 for new online products
WWW: http://www.corp.dnb.com

Disclosure

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- Telecom and PTT Global Online Strategies: Privatization and Deregulation
- U.S.-based Online Services Initiatives in Europe, Asia and Worldwide
- From Minitel to HTML: Current Service Provider Evolution Strategies
- Multimedia Evolution: CD-ROM, Interactive Television & Personal Communications
- Europe:The first Global Battlefield
- Japan and the Pacific Rim

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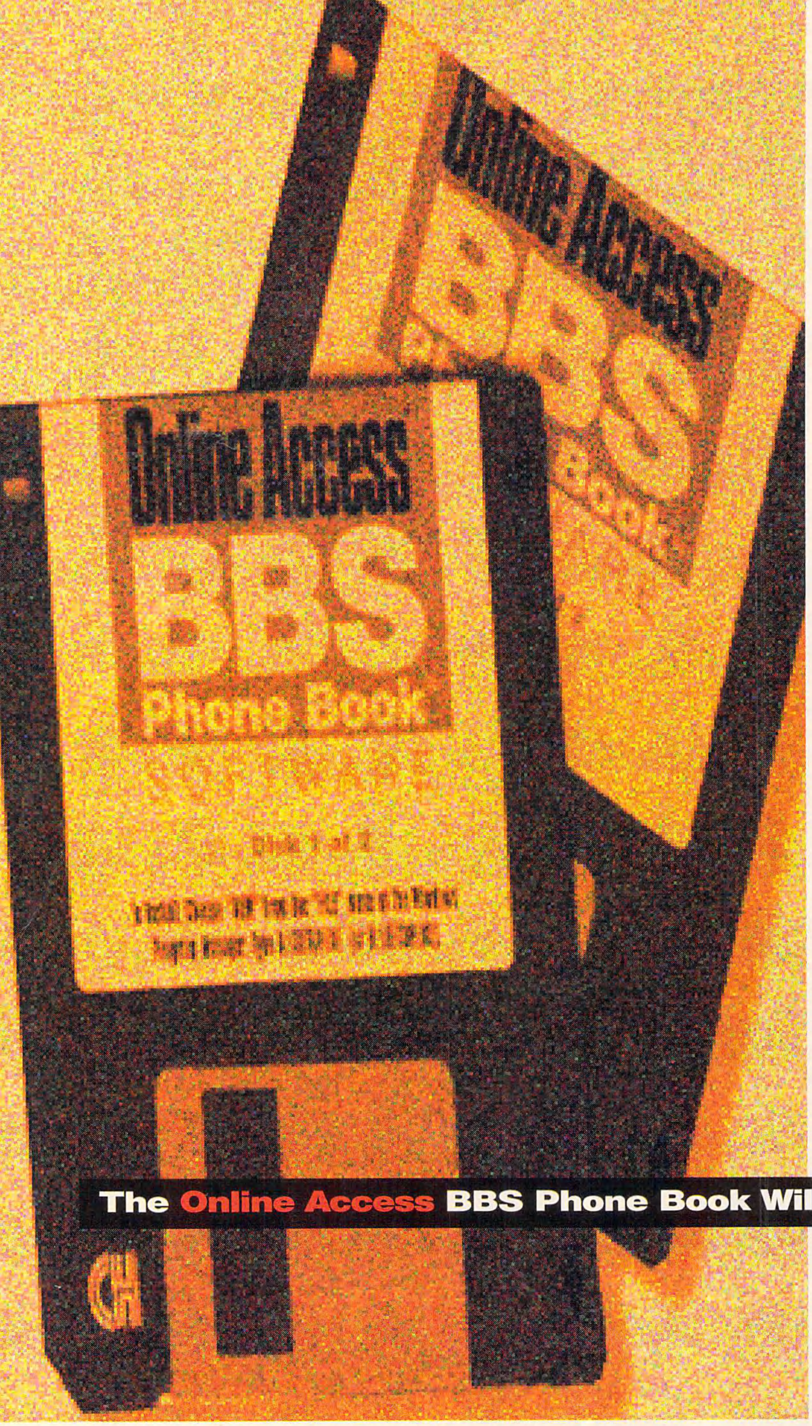

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- Search for a board by your choice of filter.
- View graphics files you might want to download.
- Customize your modem to communicate with any host system.

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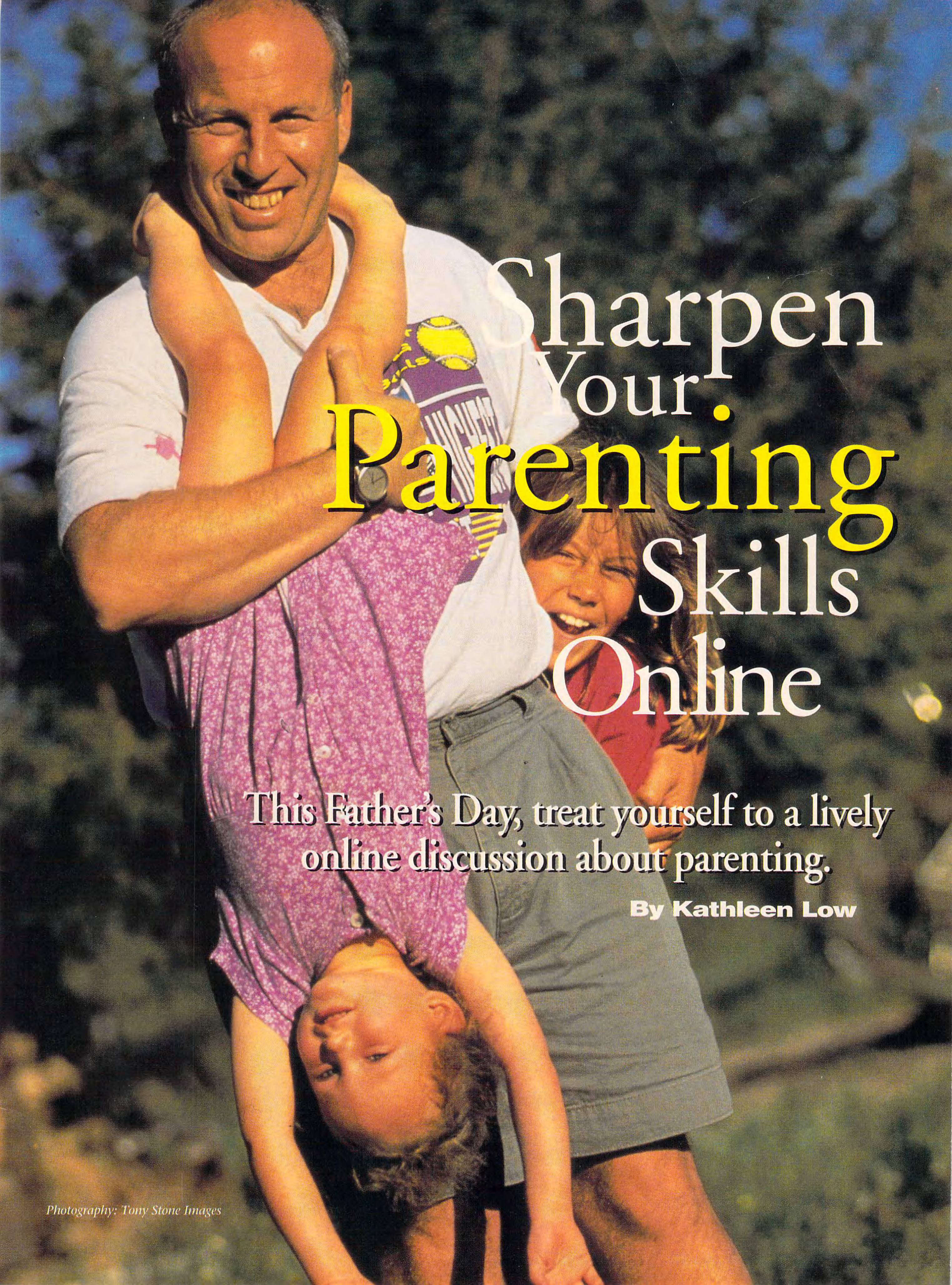
Online Access

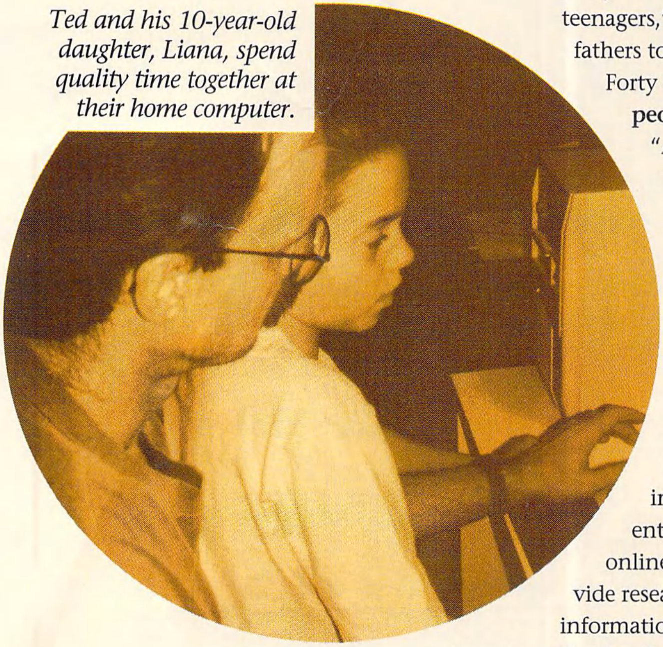


Sharpen Your Parenting Skills Online

This Father's Day, treat yourself to a lively online discussion about parenting.

By Kathleen Low

Photography: Tony Stone Images



Ted and his 10-year-old daughter, Liana, spend quality time together at their home computer.

While raising children is no easy task, a number of fathers have found comfort in online forums that offer peer support and parenting tips. Since over two-thirds of the cyberspace population is male, there's always a father online to answer questions and offer advice.

A Word to the Wise

Recently in the Over Forty Chat Room on America Online, a single man in his thirties asked for advice about becoming a stepfather. The responses he received from other fathers and stepfathers ranged from "dwell on being a positive influence in their lives ... don't rush a deeper relationship" to "it takes about seven years for a family to meld into a new one ... you have to respect the kids and remember that the main thing we, as humans, all need is love and approval." Not bad advice. After all, who better to consult than parents who have already been there?

Ken, from Citrus Heights, California, is a researcher, father (and stepfather) of four children, ages 18 to 22. He provides online advice and encouragement to other fathers who are going through the trials and tribulations of raising teenagers. "I could really have used this resourceful group of people with insight and objective opinions a few years ago when our kids were teenagers," he says. Ken advises young fathers to visit America Online's Over Forty Chat Room (keyword: **people**) with their questions. "America Online's Over Forty Chat Room welcomes newcomers and is a friendly and helpful environment," he says.

Educational Resources Online

In addition to providing a means of networking with other parents, commercial online services also provide research and technical information. For instance, the Family Resources Database, available on Knight Ridder's Information Dialog Service, contains over 100,000 records on family-related topics from family relationships and therapy to family services and organizations. These resources run the gamut, from newspaper articles on parenting to online databases and directories of organizations and institutions like schools.

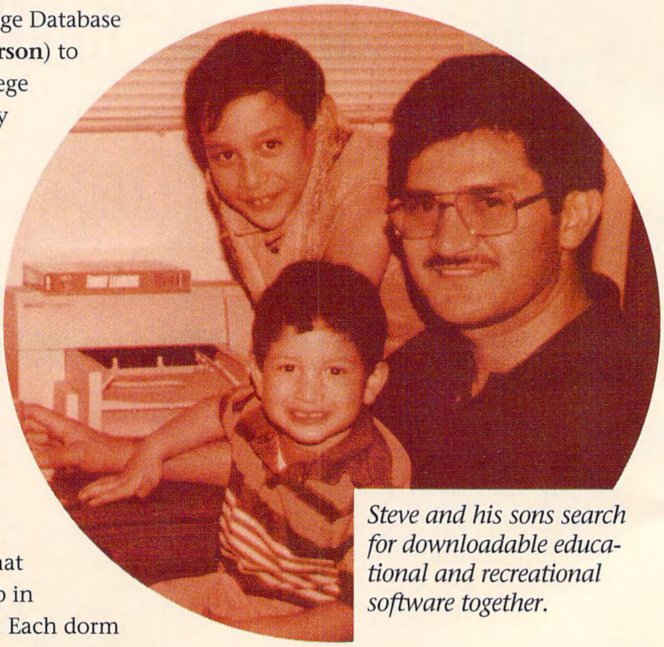
Gary, a New York City resident, accessed a list of colleges and universities from Peterson's College Database on CompuServe (go **peterson**) to help select a suitable college for his daughter. Not only was the information easy to access, it was also more current than the printed edition of the directory available in a local library. The results of their search helped them rule out one college and consider another.

But that's not where the benefits of online resources ended for Gary and his daughter. Now that she's in college, they keep in touch via electronic mail. Each dorm room in the college is wired to the campus' mainframe system that provides Internet access. However, Gary has discovered that his daughter, like many college students, doesn't spend much time writing online to her parents except in certain circumstances. "When she needs money, she writes Dad," Gary says. That response probably sounds familiar to many fathers of college students away from home.

> "...you have to respect the kids and remember that the main thing we, as humans, all need is love and approval."

Software for Kids

Besides serving as an effective and convenient communications tool, online services also help users locate and download educational and recreational software for kids. Steve, from Fairfield, California, locates and down-



Steve and his sons search for downloadable educational and recreational software together.

loads shareware for his four sons. He searches for downloadable software by using Ziffnet's file finder and by reading software magazines like Ziffnet's *Threads* and the monthly *CompuServe Magazine*.

"Software like *Sea School* has helped improve my sons' math skills, while *Jill of the Jungle* provides them with hours of entertainment," Steve says. He and his sons select the software and download it together. About this family-bonding activity, he says, "Together we enjoy the process of looking for software, retrieving it online and learning how to use it."

Going online can be fun for the whole family. Ted, a Placerville, California, resident, and his 10-year-old daughter, Liana, started spending more time together once they purchased a home computer. "Computing is a fun activity that all fathers can engage in with their children," he says.

So whether you're a parenting veteran with loads of experience or a new father with lots of questions, going online to network with others will help you become the best parent you can be. You're just a few keystrokes away from peer support and advice, informative resources and educational and recreational software. **OA**

Online Resources for Fathers

For parenting advice and discussions on related topics, check out these online resources.

- **America Online's Over Forty Chat Room/People Connection**
  keyword: people
- **CompuServe's Parent Connection Section/Issues Forum**
  keyword: issues
- **CompuServe's Work-at-Home w/ Kids Section/Working From Home Forum**
  keyword: work
- **FatherNet Listserv**
  Send subscription requests to LISTSERV@vm1.spcs.umn.edu with the message: SUBSCRIBE FATHER-L. Insert your user ID code and your first and last names.
- **Delphi's Family Forum**
  custom forum #092
- **Peterson's College Database**
  CompuServe
  keyword: peterson
  Knight-Ridder's Information Dialog Service
  file #214
- **Family Resources Database**
  Knight Ridder's Information Dialog Service
  file #291

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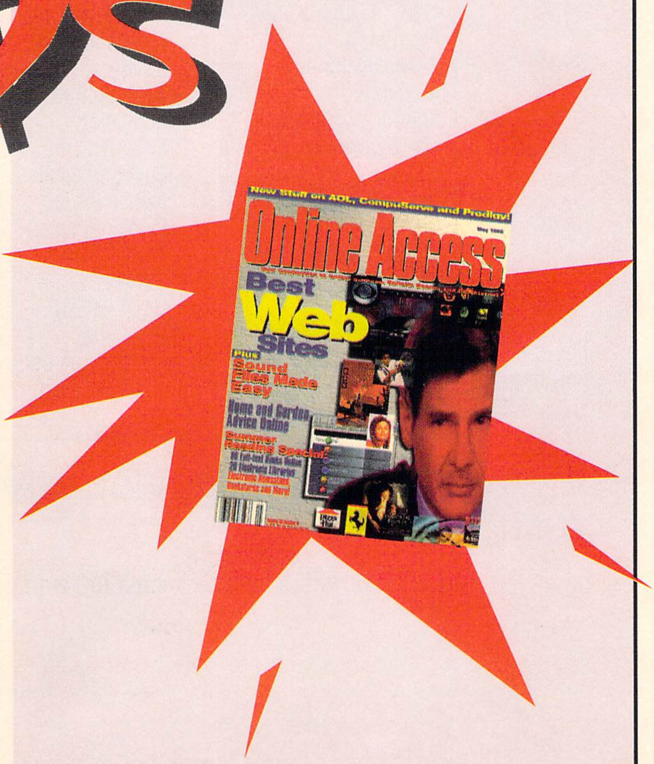
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Best Web Sites
PLUS Sound Files Made Easy
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Phone Book Survey

ONLINE ACCESS BBS Phone Book Survey

1) Bulletin Board Name:

2) Number of Lines:

3) Modem Number : BPS Rate:

4) Second Modem Number: (Optional) BPS Rate:

5) BBS Software:

6) Sysop's Name:

(Sysop's name, address and phone number will not be published.)

7) BBS Address:

8) City/State/Zip:

9) Voice Phone #:

10) Is this a free or subscription board? (Please circle one) Free or Subscription

(If users must pay to have permanent access to your board, we consider that to be a subscription board.)

11) Does your board give access to users under the age of 18? (Please circle one) Yes or No

12) Hours of Operation:

(If this is a 24-hour board, then write 24 hours. If not, then please state dates and times of operation.)

13) Network Affiliation #1: (Such as Fidonet or RBBS-Net)

14) Network Affiliation #2:

15) Do you offer any Internet services?

16) The following is a list a general bulletin board categories. Please circle a maximum of five categories into which your BBS fits.

Adult (non-sexual)
Adult (sexual)
Arts/Crafts
Associations
Astrology
Astronomy/Space
Automobiles/Motorcycles
Aviation
Books/Literature
Business
Career/Professional
Chat
Christian
Community Issues
Computer Hardware
Computer Software
Computer Related/ Tech Service
Current Events
Dating
Desktop Publishing
Education
Employment
Environmental
Family Issues
Family Oriented
Food
Games
Gay/Lesbian
Genealogy
General Interest
Graphics Files
HAM Radio
Handicapped
Health/Fitness
Hobbies
Home Construction/ Repair
International
Internet
Investing
Kids Only
Labor Unions
Law/Legal issues
Local Information
Medical
Music
Occult/Paganism
Online Publications
Pets/Animals
Police/Safety
Politics
Religion
Science
Science Fiction
Self Help/Support Groups
Shareware
Shopping
Social Issues
Sports/Recreation
State/Local Government
Travel
U.S. Government

17) Please list three specific areas of interest that your board covers.

1. 2. 3.

18) Please write a brief paragraph (50 words or less) describing your bulletin board.

Please send to: **ONLINE ACCESS**, Attn: BBS, 900 N. Franklin #310, Chicago, IL 60610 fax: 312-573-0520

BBS Phone Book

The **ONLINE ACCESS** BBS Phone Book is not your typical white pages. Each edition features a new and different set of modem numbers for you to dial. Plus many of the entries include descriptive information, such as network affiliations and board specialties, that will help you decide which boards best suit your needs.

Here are a few things to keep in mind while you page through the BBS Phone Book. First, we recommend testing modem numbers on a telephone before logging on the first time. Second, be aware that some boards have age and content restrictions determined by either the sysop or state/local laws. Third, remember that **ONLINE ACCESS** is not responsible for anything that happens to the user as a result of calling any of these boards.

Please note that the entries for this issue were randomly selected from our database. Inclusion in the **ONLINE ACCESS** BBS Phone Book does not represent an endorsement of that board by the magazine's publisher, Chicago Fine Print.

The listings are arranged according to area code and then alphabetically listed by bulletin board name within each area code. Individual entries usually consist of:

- bulletin board name
- city where located, modem number and maximum bps rate
- Internet access (when available). (Internet access refers to a variety of services from e-mail to ftp. Contact the sysop for details about specifics.)
- network affiliations (These will be capitalized within entries.).
- cost information (If the board has a subscription fee it says "pay." If not, it says "free." Most boards whether subscription or not, will let you browse for free.)
- subjects and areas of interest in which the board specializes

How Do You Get Your Board Listed?

Each edition of the **ONLINE ACCESS** BBS Phone Book contains a new list of over 2,000 bulletin board systems in North America. If you are a system operator, you can have your board listed in the BBS Phone Book for free and be seen by thousands of BBS enthusiasts! Just complete the BBS Phone Book Survey on page 72 and send it to us by e-mail at **70324.343@compuserve.com**, fax at 312-573-0520 or postal mail at **ONLINE ACCESS**, Attn: BBS, 900 N. Franklin, #310, Chicago, IL 60610. Once received, the information will be chosen at random to appear in a future issue of **ONLINE ACCESS** magazine.

BBS PHONE BOOK

The Invention Factory— A BBS with Staying Power

The Invention Factory has been in operation since 1984, long before many people even considered going online. The BBS is well known as a large, well-organized system due to sysops Kathy and Mike Sussell's smarts and endurance in the online world. You can modem to the Invention Factory at 212-274-8110 or telnet to 199.183.47.133.

This New York-based BBS offers a large adult section, shareware and freeware programs, chat, graphics files and limited Internet access. The Invention Factory provides SLIP and PPP accounts.

Basic access is $45 for three months and includes unlimited BBS access plus Internet e-mail and Usenet newsgroups.

201 New Jersey

BayTech 2000 BBS
Bayonne 201-437-2816
28,800 Internet Free
Local News, Ultra-chat, Computers

Beyond the Couch
Hopatcong 201-398-5549
14,400

Diamond Express
Sussex 201-875-2736
14,400

DX Connection
Teaneck 201-692-3705
9600
Ham Radio, Shortwave Radio

Excabars Realm
West Paterson 201-256-0691
9600 PSINET
Software

GVC Technologies
Newton 201-579-2380
14,400
Technical Support, Modems

Idiosyncrasies
Belleville 201-751-9791
9600 SAFNET
Emergency Crisis Management

Jezebel's Parlour
Flanders 201-927-2932
19,200 FIDONET Pay
Chat, Games, Conferences

Poor George
Westwood 201-664-1059
14,400

Prosperity Online
North Bergen 201-854-2728
14,400 Internet, THETANET, FIDONET Pay
Personal Prosperity, Business Prosperity

REM Remote Host BBS
Sparta 201-729-7046
2400 MAJORNET

The Eagle's Nest
Lyndhurst 201-939-2695
14,400 FIDONET Free
Downloads, Message Areas, Online Games

The Jungle BBS
Rockaway 201-586-6915
14,400 Internet Pay
Social Events, Chat, Technical

202 District of Columbia

ALEP/AFSCME
Washington 202-429-1118
9600 Internet Free
Newsletter Editing

AmericaPost
Washington 202-347-5128
14,400 FIDONET Free
Postal Laws, Regulations

ASCS Contracting BBS
Washington 202-690-0193
14,400

Casucom
Washington 202-501-7707
14,400 Internet Free
Files, Telecommuting

Economic Bulletin Board
Washington 202-482-3870
2400 Internet Pay
Economic Data, Export Promotion Leads

Gemi
Washington 202-219-0132
2400 Free
General Services Administration, U.S. Gov't.

Lockshop
Washington 202-404-8017
9600
Files, BBS Support

OPM Mainstreet
Washington 202-606-4800
9600 Free
Federal Personnel Information, Files, Messages

203 Connecticut

Androma Rising BBS
Thomaston 203-283-9662
14,400 Internet, MAJORNET Free
Games, Files, Chat

Classifieds Online
Madison 203-245-1220
9600 Pay
Classified Ads

Conniption Fit BBS
Groton 203-448-6668
9600 LIONNET
Adult

Data Info Exchange
Byram 203-531-1057
9600

Dirty Bird
Plainville 203-747-5699
14,400
Adult

First Impressions
Newington 203-667-9666
14,400 Free
Gay & Lesbian Issues

HH Info-Net
Hew Hartford 203-738-0342
9600 FIDONET, ILINK Pay
ASP Shareware, Online Games, Multilingual

Homebase
Suffield 203-668-2343
14,400 ECHOS
Files, Door Games

Land Of Confusion
Terryville 203-585-6576
9600
CD-ROMs

Lifestyles BBS
Branford 203-481-4836
14,400 FIDONET, GAY COMMUNITY LINK
Echomail, Education/Entertainment, User Events

MotherBoard
West Hartford 203-521-5283
2400

NightTrain->Nowhere
East Hartford 203-569-7978
9600

ProDOS News BBS
West Haven 203-932-8222
9600

Quinnipiac College
Hamden 203-287-0303
2400

Star Trek BBS
Plainville 203-793-8443
14,400

The Berlin Wall
Berlin 203-829-1697
14,400

The Download America BBS
Avon 203-676-1708
14,400 FIDONET Free

The Layoff Lounge
Southington 203-621-3644
9600

The Other Side of Oz
Bridgeport 203-368-1526
14,400 Internet Free
Files, Online Chat, Message Areas

The Wolf's Revenge
Trumbull 203-261-4963
9600 IGANET
Genealogy

204 Manitoba

ECONet WHQ
Winnipeg 204-253-6711
9600 ESCAPENET

HHL Systems
Winnipeg 204-897-0751
14,400 WILDNET

Mansels BBS
Winnipeg 204-831-5028
9600 WILDNET

205 Alabama

Americold Research Information Net System
Cullman 205-737-9422
9600

Connect 2000
Huntsville 205-859-4696
14,400 Internet Pay
Conservative News, Family Issues, Classifieds

Occam's Razor BBS
Huntsville 205-883-1308
9600
Math, Science, OS/2 Software

Online Montgomery
Montgomery 205-277-2221
14,400 Internet, FIDONET Pay
Information, Chat, Files

Parthenon BBS
Chelsea 205-678-9676
9600 WILDNET

Programmer's Shack
Hoover 205-988-4695
9600 RGSNET

SFE Systems USA
Huntsville 205-650-0107
14,400
Technical Support, Software-School/Industry

The Business BBS!
Birmingham 205-980-9011
28,800 Pay
Business, Small Business, Home Business

The Computrion BBS
Birmingham 205-595-0183
28,800 Internet, FIDONET, GODNET, Free
Computrion File Hunter, OS/2 and Sysop Support

The Shadowlands
Birmingham 205-939-3984
14,400 Internet Free
Dating/Meeting, Shareware, Local Interests

Tracks From the Past
Anniston 205-237-6074
9600 IGANET
Genealogy

206 Washington

28 Barbary Lane
Seattle 206-525-2828
2400 Pay
Gay & Lesbian

Attack Line
Tacoma 206-840-2445
9600 Internet
CD-ROMs, Files

Byte Doctor Online
Tacoma 206-922-4718
9600
Games, Shopping, RIP Graphics

Cameron's Railroad
Arlington 206-659-2132
14,400 FIDONET
Online Games, Files

Foul Play BBS
Tacoma 206-862-0195
9600
CD-ROMs, Files, Games

Hello Central
Bellevue 206-641-7218
14,400 Internet, WORLDLINK Pay
Teleconferencing, National Links, Fun

IQ Software
Kirkland 206-821-5486
14,400
Technical Support, LAN & Multiuser Boards

MasterPiece MBBS
Tacoma 206-926-2365
9600
CD-ROMs, Dating, Adult

Metaphysical Connection
Seattle 206-634-3209
14,400 Free
Native American, Psychic/Tarot, Philosophy

NorthWest's Best BBS
Auburn 206-939-6337
14,400
Shareware, Adult GIFs

Pacifier Online Data Service
Vancouver 206-253-9770
14,400 Internet, FIDONET Pay
Echomail, Usenet, Adult Files

Rainforest
Seattle 206-781-9642
14,400 WWIVNET, GPN Free
Pagan Issues, Philosophy, Social & Environmental

Tech One BBS
Tacoma 206-537-6940
9600 Internet
Files, Games

The After Market
Federal Way 206-529-3565
14,400 Pay
Adult, Graphics, Automobiles/Motorcycles

The ICDMnet IHQ
Olympia 206-493-6881
9600 FAMILYNET
Family Oriented

The Party Line
Gig Harbor 206-233-9021
28,800 Free
Adult, Social, Chat

The Phoenix Reborn
Tacoma 206-759-7601
9600 K12NET
K-12 Education, Games, CD-ROMs

The Shadowlands
Vancouver 206-574-5018
14,400 HCSNET Free
Pets, New Users, Free Speech

This Old House
Tacoma 206-475-2108
28,800 Internet
Files, Games

Treasure Island
Tacoma 206-759-9872
9600
Shopping, Adult, RIP Graphics

Two Babes On-Line
Seattle 206-558-0926
14,400
Adult

207 Maine

Check Six BBS
Bangor 207-945-2612
144,000 Internet Pay
USA Today News, Doors, Shareware

EagleNET
Ellsworth 207-667-1831
14,400 Internet Free
Techincal Information, Files, Shareware

Everybody Else's Favorite POS
Westbrook 207-856-7186
14,400 Internet, WORLDLINK Pay
Chats, Software

GS Connection
Cape Elizabeth 207-799-9080
9600 RGSNET

Maine Line BBS
Kennebunk 207-499-2999
14,400 NEW ENGLAND NET Pay
Files, Online Games, Messages

Northeast Corner
Bangor 207-942-0170
14,400
Files, Doors

School Talk BBS
Wilton 207-645-3250
14,400
Education, Telecommunications

SurveyNet BBS
Whitefield 207-549-3213
14,400 GEONET
Earth Sciences

The Maine BBS
Brunswick 207-729-9021
9600 FIDONET
Files, Games, Internet

The Viking BBS
Searsport 207-548-2316
19,200
Shareware

208 Idaho

Dave's Diversion
Mountain Home 208-587-9367
9600
DTP, Doors, GIFs and Files

Hewlett Packard BBS
Boise 208-344-1691
14,400
Technical Support, Printers/Computers/Software

Idaho Interactive
Boise 208-345-4987
2400 Internet, MAJORNET, WORLDNET
Chat, Games, International Forums

Purgatory
Boise 208-368-0063
9600 RGSNET

The Bodhi Tree
Boise 208-327-9916
9600 DHARMANET
Buddhism

209 California

C & R Ranch
Clovis 209-322-9072
14,400
Horse/Animal Information

Delta Wildcat
Acampo 209-369-5264
14,400
Files, GIFs, Adults

Farm-Net
Fresno 209-433-1340
Internet Pay
Farm Life, Country Music/Concerts, Rodeo Listings

Gamer's HQs
Tracy 209-836-0216
14,400 Free
Games, Shareware, Message Bases

Route 66 MultiMedia BBS
Tulare 209-688-3842
28,800 Internet, FIDONET Free
Education, Economic Development, Local Info.

Scantronic Inc.
Stockton 209-941-2572
14,400
Scantronic Alarm Support

210 Texas

Last Chance TBBS
San Antonio 210-822-7519
14,400 FIDONET Free
ASP Shareware

McAllen Memorial Library
McAllen 210-682-4529
9600 K12NET
K-12 Education

S.A.A.B.E. BBS
San Antonio 210-684-3645
2400
RIP

The Electric Sub-Station
San Antonio 210-359-8904
9600 SAFNET
Emergency Crisis Management

The Graffiti Bridge
McAllen 210-618-2105
9600 RGSNET

The Lyceum
Brownsville 210-546-4812
9600 K12NET
K-12 Education

The Rock BBS
San Antonio 210-654-9792
14,400 Interent, FIDONET, FAMILYNET
Religion, Technical Support, OS/2

Virtual Technologies
210-787-8974
14,400
Technical Support, Virtual BBS & Utilities

212 New York

Aardvark BBS
New York 212-496-8324
9600 NYNET

Bears Cave
Manhattan 212-677-7426
2400 Free
Gay & Lesbian

City People BBS
New York 212-255-6656
9600 RESHET
Jewish Religion

Communication Specialties
New York 212-645-8673
28,800 Internet, FIDONET, ADULTLINKS
Radio/TV, 12-Step, Communications

ECCO*BBS
New York 212-580-4510
14,400 Free
Job Listings, Resume Database

Energy Design Online
New York 212-662-0388
14,400 Internet Pay
Energy Efficiency, Product Renewals, Research

FPX2
New York 212-627-0531
28,800 Internet, RIMENET, BRUSHNET Pay
New User Help, Tech Support

Grist Online
New York 212-787-6562
28,800 Internet Free
Poetry

Informed Sources
Harlem 212-281-9478
9600 IGANET
Genealogy

Invention Factory
New York 212-274-8110
28,800 Internet, ILINK Pay
Shareware, chat, adult

Male Stop
Manhattan 212-721-4180
2400 Pay
Gay & Lesbian

Poetry in Motion
New York 212-666-6927
2400 RIMENET, P&BNET Free
Reading Poetry, Writing Poetry

Real Exposure
New York 212-376-4444
14,400 Internet, FIDONET, USENET Pay
New York Issues, UFO Research/Debate, Chat

213 California

Adult Services BBS
Los Angeles 213-627-8230
14,400 Internet Pay
Adult Interests, Dating/Photos, Adult Advertising

Broken Machine
Monterey Park 213-722-3721
14,400 INTELEC

Collaboration
Inglewood 213-779-3414
14,400 INTELEC

Crusader BBS
Westchester 213-665-4256
14,400 FIDONET

Pacific Online
Pasadena 213-344-4445
14,400 Internet
Files

PhotoPro BBS
Los Angeles 213-223-9285
9600 Internet, FIDONET, ILINK Pay

Starchat
Burbank 213-849-4048
2400 Pay
Gay & Lesbian

The BCS BBS
Los Angeles 213-962-2902
14,400 Internet, I LINK, CAL-LINK Pay

The Career Network
Los Angeles 213-629-1472
14,400 Pay
Resumes Online

Westside, The
Los Angeles 213-933-4050
2400 Pay
ASP Shareware, Dating, Chat

214 Texas

AIC Opportunities BBS
Dallas 214-263-9161
14,400 Free
Consultant Employment

Art Trak
Dallas 214-871-9339
14,400 Pay
Art Information, Art Research, Art Services

Chroma Copy Dallas BBS
Dallas 214-239-2740
9600
Photography

DAC Software
Dallas 214-931-6617
2400
Technical Support, DAC Easy Accounting

Dallas Alt Lifestyles
Dallas 214-954-6969
2400 Free
Gay & Lesbian

DRIG Information Services
Dallas 214-492-7057
9600 FIDONET
Satellite Tracking, Images, NASA

Hogard Software Solutions
Grand Prairie 214-641-6292
9600
Sysop Conferences, Games, Shareware Files

Investment Club USA
Dallas 214-320-0955
14,400 FIDONET, FINET Pay
Investing, Fantasy Stock Funds, Money

Obsession BBS!
Dallas 214-780-5771
16,800 KINKNET Pay
Adult

Overkill BBS
Dallas 214-442-1048
14,400 Pay

BBS PHONE BOOK

PC-Help
Richardson 214-680-2693
2400

Plastic Poultry BBS
Dallas 214-333-2949
28,800 Internet, FIDONET, VIRTUALNET, Pay
Entertainment, Games, Computer Software

Private Eyes BBS
Dallas 214-475-8708
19,200 Internet, FIDONET Pay
Adult, Business, Christian

Shepherd's Flock
Richardson 214-234-8847
2400
Christian

The Fourth Dimension
Dallas 214-343-9227
14,400 FIDONET, IBBSNET Free
Adult Files, Adult Messages, Shareware Files

The Message Board
Irving 214-554-0243
9600 YOUTHNET
Teens

The Phantom
Carrollton 214-446-3790
9600 Pay
Chat, Computer Software

Trail's End BBS
Dallas 214-750-1078
14,400 Internet, FIDONET Pay
Music Software, Music Hardware, Tech. Support

215 Pennsylvania

Computer Doctor
Philadelphia 215-745-1915
14,400

EnterTech BBS
Philadelphia 215-335-9850
2400

Forest, The
Yardley 215-321-6877
2400

GPH Game Power Headquarters
Philadelphia 215-969-6916
2400 MAJORNET

Hotline BBS
Lansdale 215-393-8594
14,400

IT
Bristol 215-785-6483
2400

Logon: Philadelphia
Rydal 215-572-8240
14,400 Internet, FIDONET, AUTHORSNET
Pay
Writing, Healthcare

Low Budget BBS
Philadelphia 215-482-3136
2400

Newtown Express Inc., The
Newtown 215-860-9724
14,400 RIMENET, FIDONET Pay
ASP Shareware, Adult Areas

NightLife Adult BBS
Philadelphia 215-288-9368
14,400 WILDNET

Opaque Prism
Hunt Valley 215-938-1322
2400

Popular Emotion
Philadelphia 215-386-9333
14,400 NOVAWORLD

Real Estate World
Philadelphia 215-426-2268
14,400 DELCONET, DVLINK Free
Real Estate, Lending, Buying/Selling

Screamin' Eagle BBS
Philadelphia 215-969-3384
2400

Street Academy
Philadelphia 215-551-0557
14,400 INFOTECH, ETERNETY Free
Streetwise Kids, Computer Edu., Health/Welfare

Tradewars 2 BBS
Levittown 215-547-5026
2400

Traveler BBS
Hatboro 215-442-0757
2400

UnNamed BBS
Ambler 215-540-0141
9600 WILDNET

216 Ohio

American Information Network
Canton 216-456-7771
14,400 Internet Pay
Public Records, Credit Reports, Background Info.

B.B.S. Enterprise
Akron 216-928-8060
14,400
Star Trek, Doors

Bill & Bob's Place
Cleveland 216-741-5888
2400 Pay
Gay & Lesbian

CanCom
Canton 216-477-4504
9600 FIDONET Pay
Chat, Ham Radio, Handicapped

CyberLink
New Philadelphia 216-339-9311
9600 RGSNET

Home & Vacation Network
Cleveland 216-237-0036
14,400

Homes Online
Aurora 216-562-4006
14,400 Internet Free
Mortgage Information, Real Estate Services

Hudson Bay
Westlake 216-252-3210
14,400 Internet Pay
Chat, Multiplayer Games

InfoCool Akron
Akron 216-869-8980
14,400 Internet, ONENET Pay
Macintosh, Music, Outdoors

Lamp Lighter BBS
Wellington 216-647-5876
9600
Adult GIFs, Shareware

Nerd's Nook II
Rocky River 216-356-1772
9600 K12NET
K-12 Education

Rusty 'n Edies BBS
Boardman 216-726-2620
14,400 Pay
Shareware Files, Adult, Games

ShadowForce BBS
Akron 216-773-3624
14,400 Internet, FIDONET Free
Games, Wrestling

TCP
Lakewood 216-228-7335
14,400 Internet Free

The Buyline BBS
Cleveland 216-587-0062
14,400 Free
Sales, Marketing

The Dragon's Lair
Cleveland 216-671-0850
9600
Adult, Games

The GameBoard
Cleveland 216-283-0494
14,400 Internet, NETACCESS Pay
Multiplayer Games, CD-ROMs Files

Thermo Systems
Parma 216-843-3875
2400
Games, Files

217 Illinois

After School
Urbana 217-344-9355
9600 YOUTHNET
Teens

AVI The Ultimate BBS
Springfield 217-792-3663
2400 MAJORNET

Graphic Impulse BBS
Champaign 217-398-4450
14,400
Adult, Original Scans

Hudson Softsides
Shelbyville 217-774-5978
14,400
Shareware, Doors

Profitmaker
Quincy 217-224-3203
14,400 Internet, MAJORNET Pay
Professional Files, News, Business

The Bone Yard
Springfield 217-698-0907
9600 FIDONET
Doors

The Data Hut
Decatur 217-875-7114
14,400 INTELEC

USA-1 BBS
Springfield 217-522-9668
9600 SAFNET
Emergency Crisis Management

218 Minnesota

Computer Enterprises BBS
Grand Rapids 218-326-4205
14,400 RIMENET

Shareware Plus! BBS
Pine River 218-543-4424
14,400 Internet Pay
Doors, For-Sale Conference, Files

The Night Owl
Esko 218-879-9466
2400

219 Indiana

After Five BBS
Elkhart 219-262-1370
2400 ILINK
Conferences, Files

Computer Works Tech Support
South Bend 219-272-8133
9600 K12NET
K-12 Education

Crystal Cave Modem
La Porte 219-778-4281
14,400 Internet Free
Dungeons & Dragons, Music

DP Job Works
Fort Wayne 219-436-9702
14,400 Free
Job Listings, Resume Database

Dune Master
Michigan City 219-879-9570
14,400 FIDONET Free
Amiga, IBM, Door Games

Dwayne's World
Hebron 219-988-4227
14,400 SLNET, RIPNET Free
Shareware, Freeware

F.Y.B.I.T.S
Hammond 219-844-3580
28,800 IGANET
Genealogy

Radio Daze
Mishawaka 219-256-2255
14,400 Internet, RUSNET, U-NINET Free
Broadcasting, Ham Radio, Shortwave Radio

RIF BBS
North Webster 219-834-3404
9600
RIP, CD-ROMs

Rock Pile BBS
South Bend 219-288-8950
28,800 WILDNET, THROBNET Pay
Adult, Music, General

Shear Delight BBS
Merrillville 219-736-8831
9600

Starfleet Command
New Haven 219-493-1093
2400

The Pool Room BBS
Fort Wayne 219-744-0455
9600 RGSNET

The Slime Line
Fort Wayne 219-637-8900
9600 RGSNET

Wild Side
Churubusco 219-693-1714
14,400

WinPoint BBS
Fort Wayne 219-436-4778
14,400
Windows Technical Support

301 Maryland

Advanced Data Services
Frederick 301-695-9116
14,400 Internet, MAJORNET, FIDONET Pay

ASC Online
Bowie 301-352-8900
14,400 Internet, FIDONET, ADULT LINKS
ROM Door Support, Shareware, Files

Business Online
Gaithersburg 301-587-8777
2400 Internet Pay
Commerce Business Daily, Business Assistance

Castles Gate
Laurel 301-490-8679
14,400
Adult, Door Games

Deaf New World BBS
Silver Spring 301-587-2277
14,400 JOBNET
Employment

Enhanced Electronics BBS
Frostburg 301-689-0518
14,400
Shareware

Hat Trick BBS
Kensington 301-949-3828
14,400 FIDONET
Hockey

HUG & Lincoln Software
Hagerstown 301-733-6456
9600
AAP Shareware, Lincoln Support

Infinetwork
Laurel 301-498-6183
9600 Internet, MAJORNET, INTERNET Pay
Chat, Games, Files

Main Frame BBS
Germantown 301-654-2554
9600 Internet

Old Timers BBS
Waldorf 301-645-1049
9600
Messages

Packet Press BBS
Gaithersburg 301-294-0756
14,400 INTERNET
Movie/Celebrity GIFs, Scrabble Games

Peyton Place
Silver Spring 301-933-5193
14,400 Internet Free
Chat, Games, Shareware

Sierra Club Catoctin Group BBS
Knoxville 301-834-5110
14,400
Environment

The 19th Hole
Montgomery Village 301-869-2389
14,400
Golf Links, Apogee/Epic Games

The Lightning Rod
Silver Spring 301-622-0708
9600 RIMENET
Scrabble, Stack'em!, Games

The Master System
Hagerstown 301-416-7118
9600 PSINET
Software

Tri-Share
301-967-8643
14,400 RIMENET Free
Games, Shareware, Technical Support

W3JP Exchange
Mt. Airy 301-831-5954
2400

302 Delaware

Alternatives PLUS, Inc
Wilmington 302-328-0381
9600 Pay
ASP Shareware, Window, Teleconferencing

Missions Possible!
Dover 302-678-9005
9600 FAMILYNET
Family Oriented

Swiss Wildcat! BBS
New Castle 302-655-4988
14,400
Message, Files

The Basement BBS
New Castle 302-322-3602
14,400 Internet, ITCNET Free
Photography, Newcomer Help, Adult Interests

WB3IKP BBS
Claymont 302-798-8186
9600 DOORNET
Doors

303 Colorado

AmNet
Denver 303-680-7791
9600
Animal Rights

Colorado Connection, The
Arvada 303-423-9775
14,400 Internet LASVEGASNET, Pay
ASP Shareware, Games,

Colorado Online
Louisville 303-666-7188
9600
Community

Deep Space Nine
Boulder 303-494-8447
9600 RGSNET

DLS InfoNet
Littleton 303-347-2921
14,400 Internet Free
Shareware, Business, Games

GeoTechnica BBS
Littleton 303-933-0712
14,400 GEONET
Earth Sciences

Lakewood Police Department
Lakewood 303-987-7388
2400 Free
Criminal Intelligence, Law Enforcement

MacCircles
Golden 303-526-2219
14,400 Internet, FIDONET Free
International News, Health and Safety, Theater

Nito's
Denver 303-695-4218
9600
Files, Games, Messages

NixPix
Aspen 303-920-1263
2400 Pay
Gay & Lesbian

Pazzuzio's Palace
Denver 303-680-6476
9600
Files, Games, Messages

Pentax Technologies
Denver 303-460-1637
14,400
Scanners, Laser Printers, Technical Support

Privileged Information
Denver 303-320-3401
14,400 Internet
Business, Travel, Technical Support

RecycleNet
Denver 303-620-4096
2400 Free
Solid Waste Management, Recycling, Legislation

Roman Catacombs
Denver 303-429-8914
9600
UNIX, LINUX

Rybs Electronics
Denver 303-443-7437
2400
Technical Support, Memory Manager

The Bowling BBS
Broomfield 303-460-8649
9600 YOUTHNET
Teens

The Real Estate Connection
Littleton 303-933-3372
9600 Free
Real Estate

Time Online Connection
Boulder 303-444-2695
14,400 Free
Business

ValueComm BBS
Denver 303-388-0336
2400 Free
ASP Shareware, PC Support, Flight Simulation

304 West Virginia

Cat Eye, The
Shinnston 304-592-3390
14,400 Internet, RIMENET Pay
ASP Shareware

Fantasy Sports Central
Princeton 304-487-3558
14,400
Sports, Fantasy Sports

MultiComp Services
Parkersburg 304-863-3394
14,400
Files, Doors

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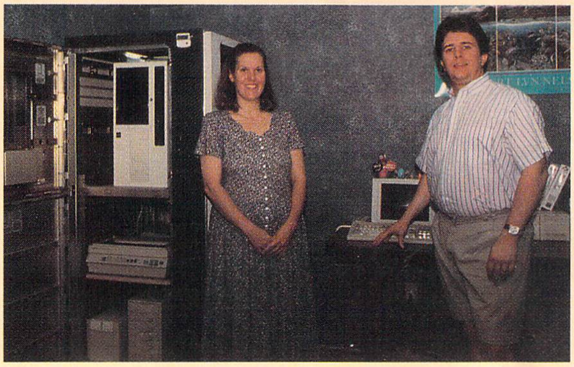

DLS Infonet - An Online Alternative

DLS, or Digital Logic Systems, was designed to offer a low-cost alternative to commercial online services such as America Online, Prodigy and CompuServe. As a result, the system's user-friendly interface and colorful graphics are popular with both beginners and experienced online users.

"We have a lot of people sign onto our board to use Internet e-mail as a means of communication with college students everywhere," says DLS InfoNet sysop Robin McCarthy, pictured above with her husband Gerald. That's not surprising, considering DLS's continually expanding system and well-rounded services.

DLS is located in Littleton, Colorado, and offers over 100 file areas. Humor, politics, missing persons, magazines/books and personal investing are just a few of the many topics to choose from. Through a newly installed satellite dish the BBS receives messages throughout the day from 3,000 Usenet newsgroups.

The basic membership fee is $10 for two months with 60 minutes of access per day. You can reach DLS at 303-347- 2921, modem.

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Davie 305-242-1160
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Mine Shaft BBS
Miami 305-477-0550
2400
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Miami 305-266-9839
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9600

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642 The Death Star BBS
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The Castle BBS
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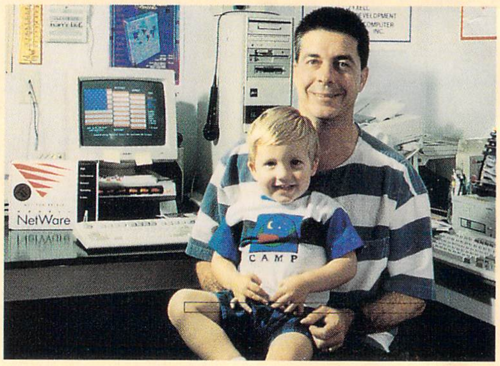
A Home for Political Conservatives



How many days are left in the Clinton administration? Sysop Robin Turner, pictured right with son Jonathan, knows. He tabulates Bill Clinton's remaining days in office on his BBS, Politically Incorrect, 407-632-7549, modem. The patriotic colors red, white and blue dominate this BBS, a haven for political conservatives who rejoice in the Republican's current majority in Congress.

Jonathan may be too young to understand his father's political stance, but he definitely shares in his passion for computers. According to his father, this two-year-old mastered the mouse at 18 months and already possesses a vast knowledge of PCs.

Some of Politically Incorrect's features include games, sound files, a large file library and information on desktop publishing. This BBS is also the home of the Space Coast Chapter of the Network Professional Association (NPA), the national organization of Novell Networking Professionals. "Novell-Certified Netware Engineers (CNEs) and Enterprise-Certified Netware Engineers (ECNEs) are the gurus of the LAN world. I have the ECNE rating, which is Novell's highest," says Turner.

This Cocoa, Florida, based BBS also provides aid for those who wish to become Novell Certified. A lifetime membership fee is $20 for unlimited system time.

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Games, Messages, Adult

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Cocoa Beach 407-868-0344
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West Palm Beach 407-687-9355
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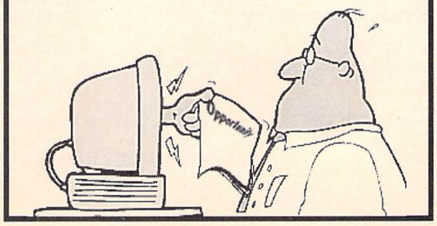

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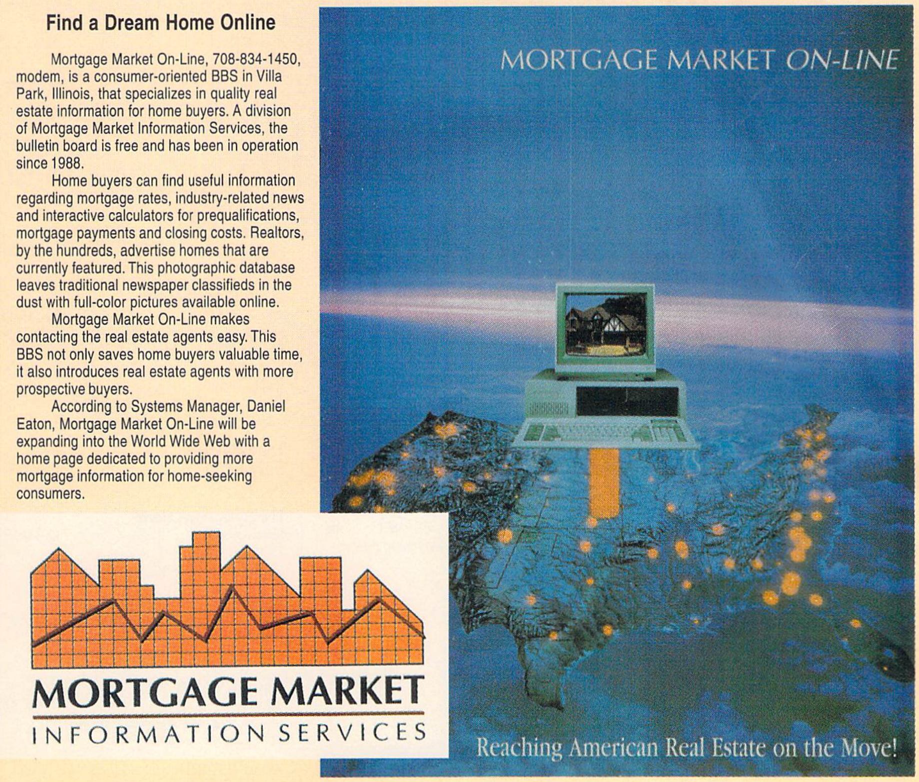
Home buyers can find useful information regarding mortgage rates, industry-related news and interactive calculators for prequalifications, mortgage payments and closing costs. Realtors, by the hundreds, advertise homes that are currently featured. This photographic database leaves traditional newspaper classifieds in the dust with full-color pictures available online.

Mortgage Market On-Line makes contacting the real estate agents easy. This BBS not only saves home buyers valuable time, it also introduces real estate agents with more prospective buyers.

According to Systems Manager, Daniel Eaton, Mortgage Market On-Line will be expanding into the World Wide Web with a home page dedicated to providing more mortgage information for home-seeking consumers.



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Spartacus Lives
Lyndon 802-626-5806
28,800

Tech Spot BBS
Bellows Falls 802-463-9731
14,400 FIDONET

VT Trading Post
Essex Junction 802-879-1732
14,400
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VT-Teletalk BBS
Burlington 802-863-2578
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Wastelands
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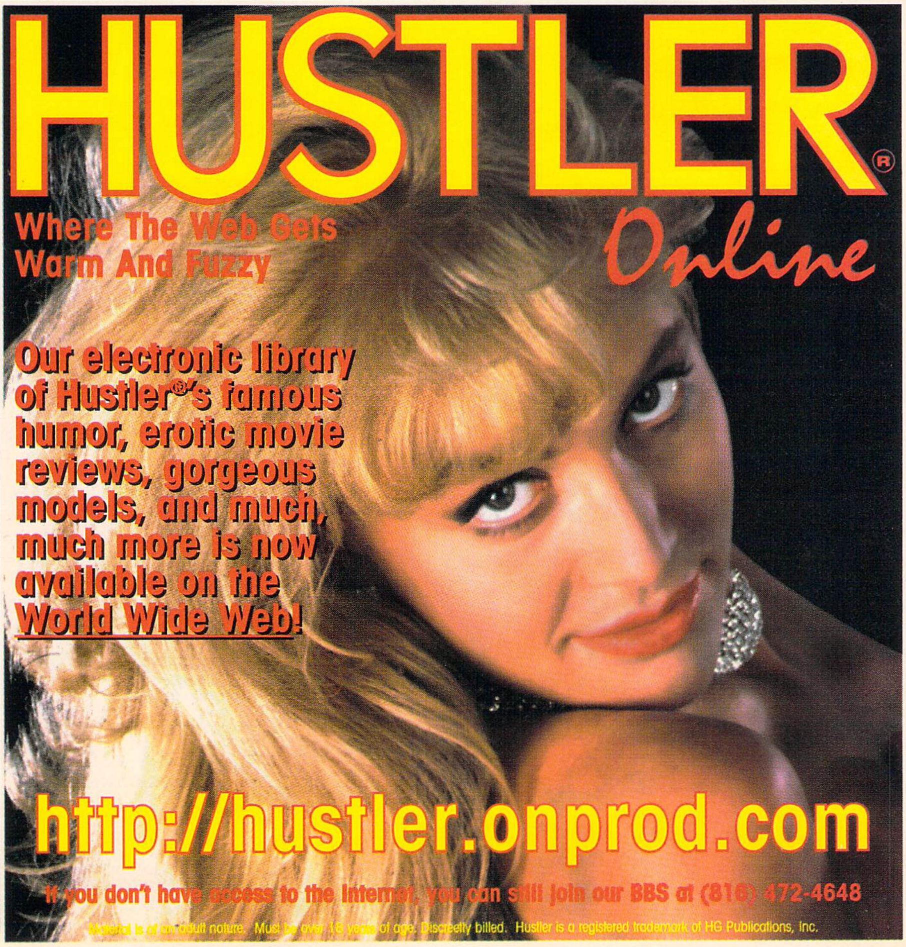
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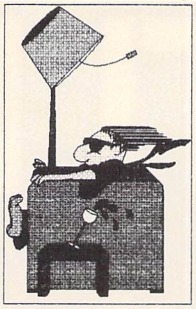

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The Attic BBS
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The Blackroom
Red Bank 908-758-6356
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The Club House
Cranford 908-272-2073
28,800 FIDONET Free
Chat, Technical Support

The Underground
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Bits & Bytes BBS
Fontana 909-356-4636
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CafeXpresso
Alta Loma 909-944-3336
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CyberCulture
Yucaipa 909-797-3135
38,400 FIDONET, ONENET Free
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CAUTION
ADULTS AT PLAY

Let the Good Times Roll

The Garbage Dump's insightful motto, "Caution, Adults at Play" describes this system's attitude to a tee. The bulletin board is a place where adults from all over the world can gather for a good time in cyberspace. Pleasant system operators and users make meeting new friends easy. Sysop Dean Kerl say a few friendships that started on the BBS have resulted in marriage.

The staff of The Garbage Dump gathers users from many different cities and states together for annual parties. Set in the mountains of New Mexico, barbecues are a favorite get-together with sightseeing, socializing and volleyball, not to mention plenty of food and drink. The staff does play hard, as pictured above. Pictured clockwise from bottom left are Debbie Meaden, Larry Fox, Steven Fox, Margaret Fox, Erix Sexson, Dean Kerl, Zachary Kerl, Mike Meaden, Lynna Fine, David Kerl and Andrea Kerl.

Adult chat rooms, message areas and multiuser games are The Garbage Dump's most popular features. The Garbage Dump has hubs in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Denver, Colorado and Dallas, Texas. Local access numbers are also provided for long distance callers in over 500 cities across the United States.

Hourly rates start at 50 cents per hour. Contact The Garbage Dump at 505-294-0803, modem.

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Riverside 909-780-5175
14,400 Internet, RIMENET, INTELEC Pay
Games, Technical Advice, E-mail

Education Junction
Calimesa 909-795-3918
9600 K12NET
K-12 Education

Locksoft
Hemet 909-654-5625
14,400 RIME Free
World Dominance Door, Power Struggle Door

Secret Explorer
San Marino 909-464-2750
14,400 Free
Shareware, Adult GIFs

TCR The Chicken Ranch BBS!
Fontana 909-823-0722
2400 MAJORNET

The Diamond Bar BBS
Ontario 909-923-1031
14,400 Internet, FIDONET, Free
IBM and 0S/2 Software, Commodore Software

The New Age Connection
Riverside 909-369-7280
2400 Free
New Age, Pagan, Chat

The Quest BBS
Riverside 909-371-6751
14,400 Internet, RELAYNET, THROBNET
Adult Issues, Gay Issues, Health & Fitness

910 North Carolina

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Wilmington 910-350-8061
9600 FIDONET Pay
Files, Messages, Chat

Boarding House
Fayetteville 910-483-0741
14,400
Doors, Files

Dew Drop Inn
Fayetteville 910-488-2045
9600 RGSNET

Magreathea BBS
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14,400 Free
Hitchikers' Guide To Galaxy, Shareware, Doors

PC-Motorsports BBS
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9600 DOORNET
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Macon 912-633-1227
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OS/2, Genealogy, Games

PowerLine #2
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9600
Christian

Statesboro BBS
Statesboro 912-489-3472
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Tybee Lytes'
Tybee Island 912-786-9047
2400 Internet Free
Software Support, Atlanta Olympics Information

913 Kansas

Access One
Abilene 913-263-0410
28,800 Internet Free
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Informnix
Shawnee Mission 913-897-0946
14,400 Internet, FIDONET Pay
Chat, Files, Games

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Kansas City 913-648-6979
9600 MUFONNET, IGANET
UFOs, Genealogy

Loads of Fun BBS
Topeka 913-478-3716
9600 PSINET, RGSNET
Software

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913-362-6603
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Laser BBS, The
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9600 K12NET
K-12 Education

NYM New York MetroChat
Mount Kisco 914-242-8227
14,400 MAJORNET

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The Network BBS
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915 Texas

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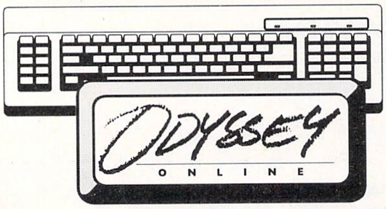

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ClipBoard, p. 19	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Internet Insider, p. 22	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
OA10: Online Democracy, p. 26	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Power User, p. 28	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Baud Street, p. 31	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Strangelove on the Internet, p. 34	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Good Things on the Internet, p. 36	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Launch Pad, p. 38	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The Great Web Rush of '95: Prodigy Takes an Early Lead, p. 42	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Ten Tips for Browsing the World Wide Web on Prodigy, p. 49	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Search Tools for the Web: Robots, Spiders and Worms, Oh My!, p. 51	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
When MUD Moos and MUSH Muses, p. 56	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Charming the Beast: EDGAR, p. 63	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sharpen Your Parenting Skills Online, p. 69	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Editor's Choice: BBS Phone Book, p. 74	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Info MarketPlace, p. 100	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Online Almanac, p. 104	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Which of the following do you use online? (Select as many as apply.)

- ☐ **Bulletin boards**
- ☐ **Chat**
- ☐ **Children's programming**
- ☐ **E-mail**
- ☐ **Investing/brokerage**
- ☐ **Newspapers**
- ☐ **Research (business)**
- ☐ **Research (personal)**
- ☐ **Shopping**
- ☐ **Special interest groups**

What topics would you like to read about in future issues?

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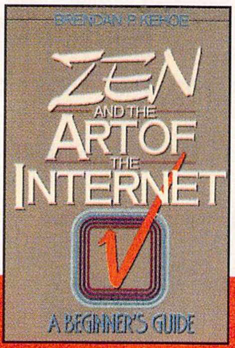

WIN!

Please send the completed survey to **ONLINE ACCESS**, Attn: Survey, 900 N. Franklin #310, Chicago, IL 60610 or fax it to 312-573-0520

By Elias Crim

Summer is here!

Mark these great online events for June on your calendar.

Photography: Tony Stone Images

Play Ball, Baseball Fans

Baseball season should be in full swing by now. You can check in on Usenet's baseball newsgroup (**rec.sport.baseball**), where lots of messages are flying back and forth. Also recommended: the Baseball Server (**http://www.nando.net /baseball//bbmain.html**).

U.S. Open, June 15-18

With the U.S. National Open golf championship taking place on the 15th through the 18th at Shinnecock Hills, New York, golfers won't want to miss the GolfWeb (**http://www.golfweb.com**). Linksters can get all the pre-tournament information, photos and results.

D-Day, June 6

June 6th marks the 51st anniversary of D-Day. Information about this historical event is available at **http://192.253.114.31/DDay/ Table_of_Contents.html**. You'll find maps, audiotapes of speeches, photos and even movie clips.

First Helicopter Flight, June 16

For you aviation buffs, June 16th is the anniversary of the first helicopter flight taken back in 1922 by Henry Berliner. Of course I learned this from Helicopter World's home page (**http://www.cs.umu.se/~dvamoa/ heli.html**).

Vacations

Is a trip on your agenda for June? Here are three travel sites to check out.

The Virtual Tourist World Map is a clickable map of Web servers worldwide (**http://wings.buffalo.edu/ world**). I selected Asia and looked at Web pages and sites in Hong Kong and Macau. I then skipped over to Russia, where I stopped in at Moscow State University's page.

eWorld's Family Travel Guide (go **famtrav**) is an excellent resource for family-oriented accommodations, travel ideas, travel specials and a discussion board.

AOL's Travel section (keyword **travel**) is also loaded: find American Airlines' EAAsy Sabre service, a Preview Vacations section (for discount vacation offers), an online auction of trips, color photos of destinations, Win-a-Trip surveys and travel talk forums.

Exhibit of the Month

"Diving Into the Gene Pool" exhibit is currently on display at San Francisco's Exploratorium museum. The museum is sponsoring an online forum (called ETHEX) in connection with this event. To register, send an e-mail to **listproc@ exploratorium.edu**. Include in the message the word *subscribe* followed by your name. (Look around the museum's home page at **http:// www.exploratorium.edu**.)

Father's Day Gifts

Father's Day is coming and what to buy? Try eWorld's "Gourmet a la ModeM" in the Marketplace section. You can search through delicious-sounding food gifts of all kinds (go **gourmet**). **OA**

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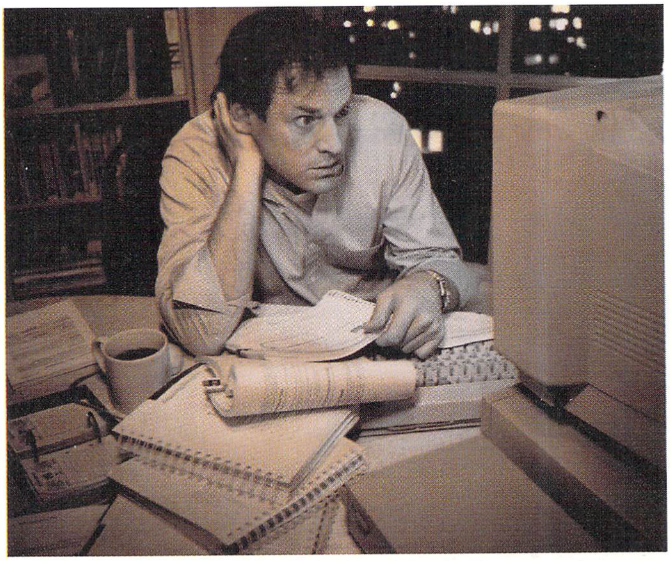

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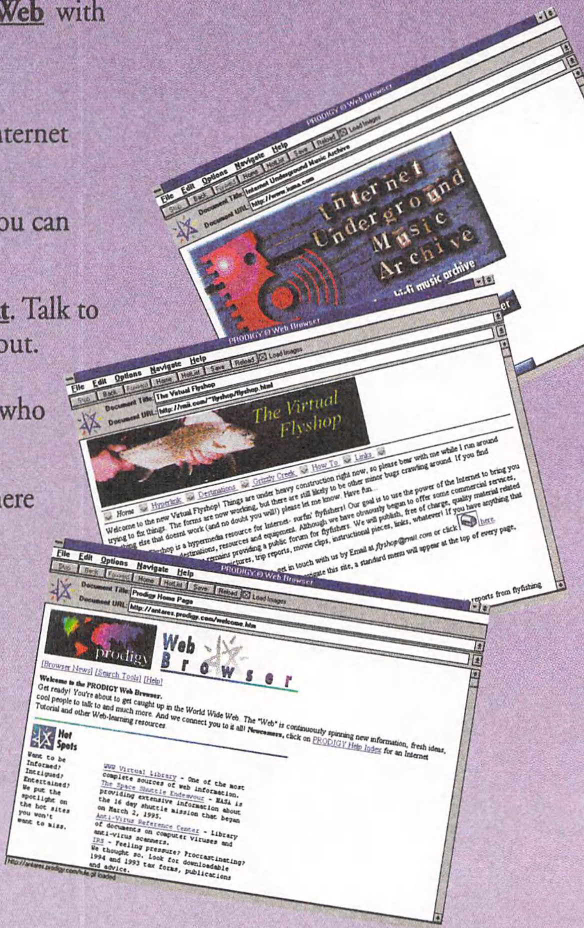

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Anti-Virus Reference Center - Library of documents on computer viruses and anti-virus scanners.
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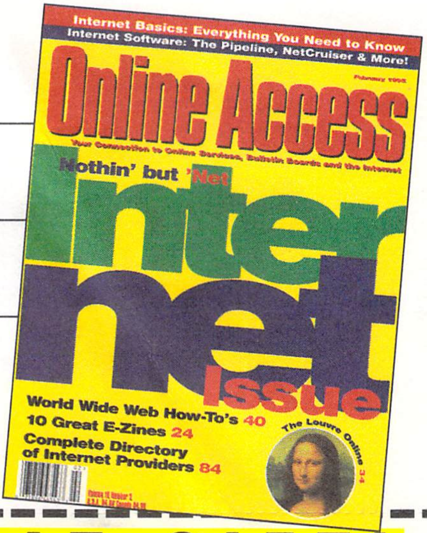
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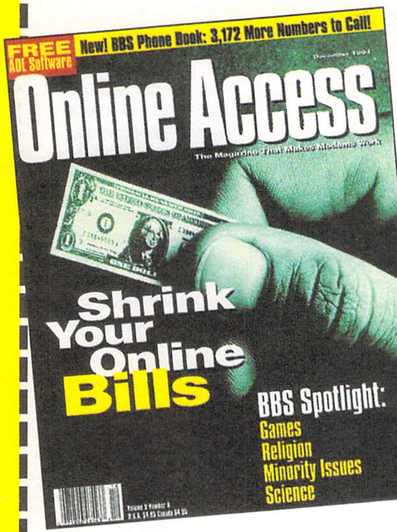
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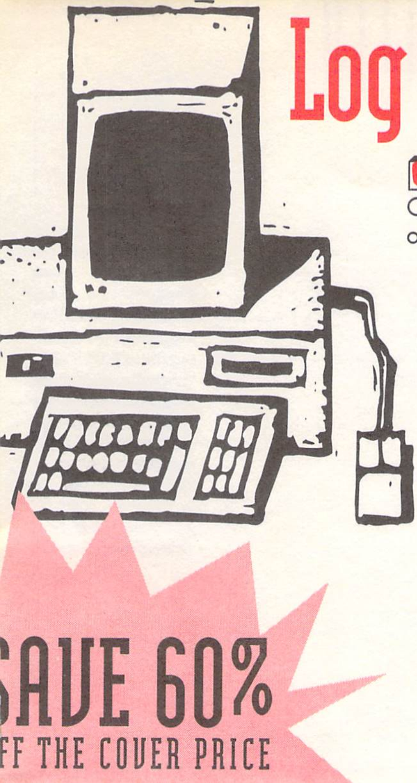

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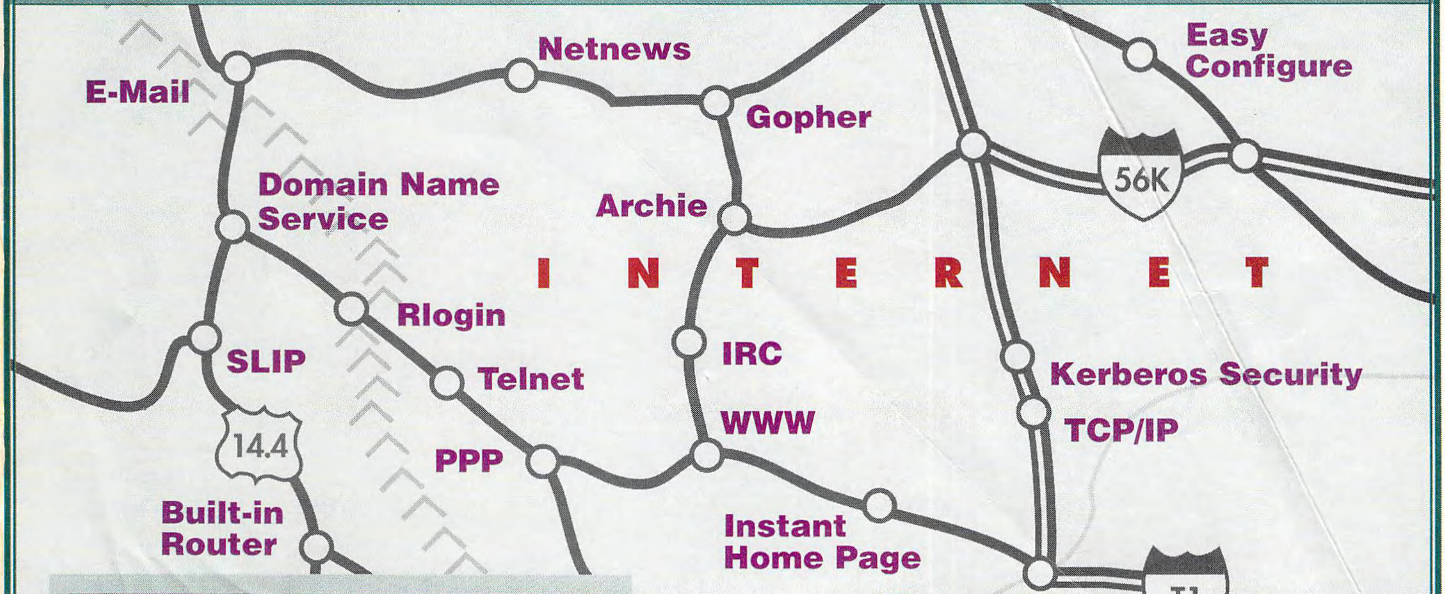

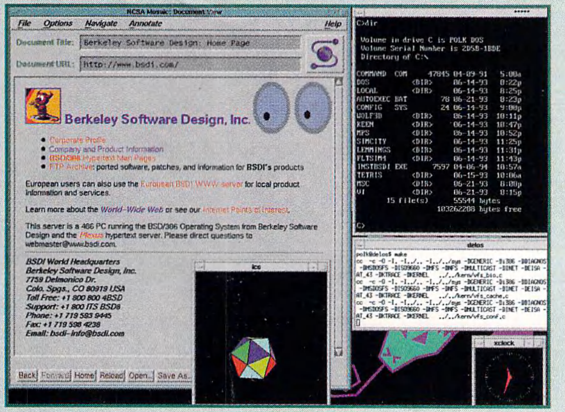

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```
C>dir

 Volume in drive C is POLK DOS
 Volume Serial Number is 2D58-1BDE
 Directory of C:\

COMMAND  COM     47845 04-09-91   5:00a
DOS          <DIR>     06-14-93   8:22p
LOCAL        <DIR>     06-14-93   8:25p
AUTOEXEC BAT        78 06-21-93   8:23p
CONFIG   SYS        24 06-14-93   9:00p
WOLF3D       <DIR>     06-14-93  10:11p
KEEN         <DIR>     06-14-93  10:47p
MPS          <DIR>     06-14-93  10:52p
SIMCITY      <DIR>     06-14-93  11:25p
LEMMINGS     <DIR>     06-14-93  11:31p
FLTSIM4      <DIR>     06-14-93  11:43p
INSTBSDI EXE      7597 04-06-94  10:57a
TETRIS       <DIR>     06-15-93  10:06a
MSC          <DIR>     06-21-93   8:08p
VI           <DIR>     06-21-93   8:15p
       15 file(s)      55544 bytes
                    103262208 bytes free

C>
```

```
polk@delos$ make
cc  -c -O -I. -I../.. -I../../sys -DGENERIC -Di386 -DDIAGNOS
 -DMSDOSFS -DISO9660 -DMFS -DNFS -DMULTICAST -DINET -DEISA -
AT_43 -DKTRACE -DKERNEL   ../../kern/vfs_bio.c
cc  -c -O -I. -I../.. -I../../sys -DGENERIC -Di386 -DDIAGNOS
 -DMSDOSFS -DISO9660 -DMFS -DNFS -DMULTICAST -DINET -DEISA -
AT_43 -DKTRACE -DKERNEL   ../../kern/vfs_cache.c
cc  -c -O -I. -I../.. -I../../sys -DGENERIC -Di386 -DDIAGNOS
 -DMSDOSFS -DISO9660 -DMFS -DNFS -DMULTICAST -DINET -DEISA -
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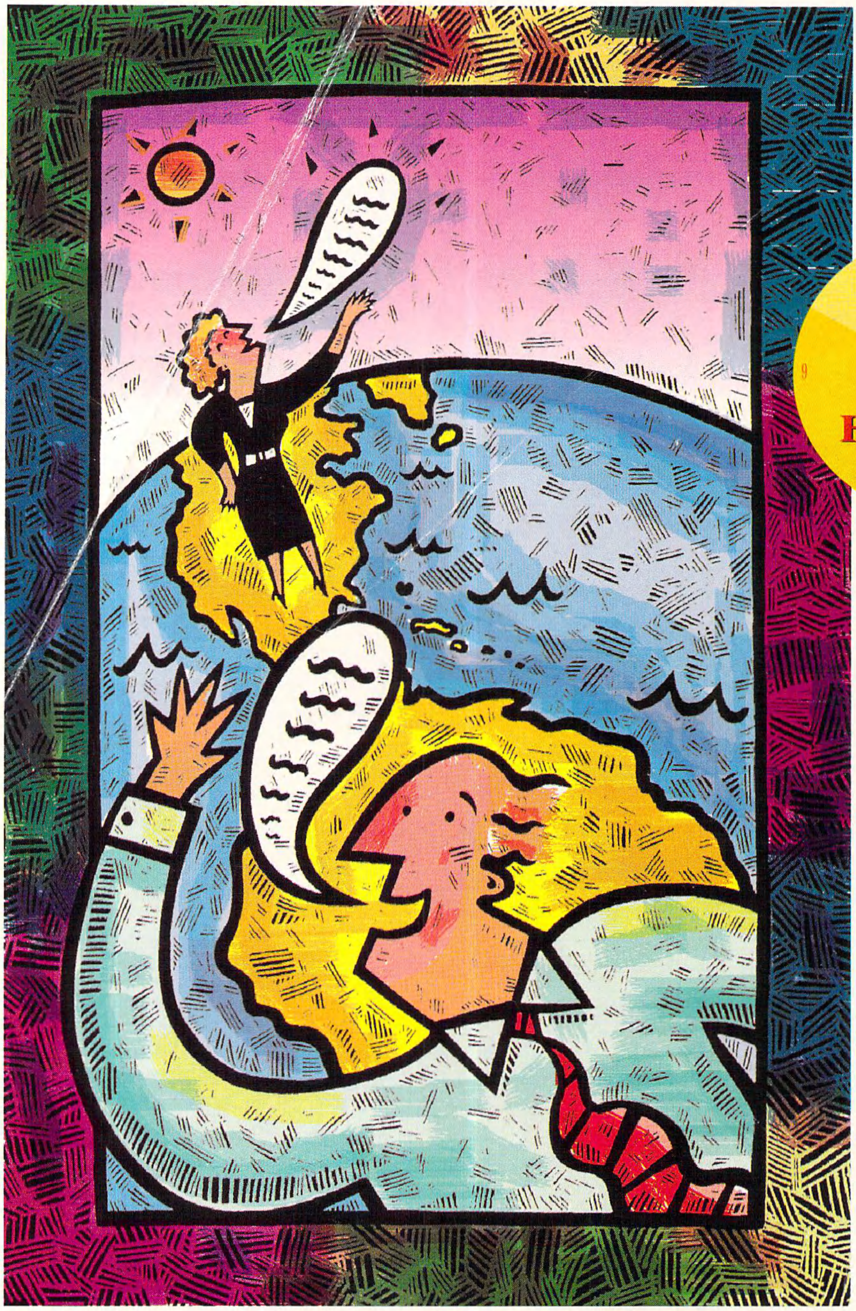

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